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SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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OPPOSITION TO ELECTION

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Feb 82 p 1

[Article: "Chief of BAKIN [Intelligence Coordinating Body]: Activity of Various 'Petition Groups' Will Continue"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The activity of various groups, whether the "Petition 50" group, the "Petition 61" group, or even the "Petition 360" group, will not stop after the forthcoming general election. Indeed, the activity of these various groups will continue even after the 1982 general election is over.

This is the view of the chief of BAKIN (State Intelligence Coordinating Body), Gen (Ret) Yoga Soegomo, in answering questions from journalists after being received by President Soeharto at the Bina Graha offices on Monday [1 February].

In general the groups seeking signatures on petitions do not approve of the holding of the general election, which they call "undemocratic." Apart from that, they also criticize a number of members of Parliament and of the People's Consultative Assembly [MPR] who were appointed by the president.

Answering a question, Yoga Soegomo said that BAKIN is aware of the tactics and of the people who are urging the community not to take part in the general elections. However, up to now they cannot be said to have violated existing law.

He said that if the people who are advising others to stay away from the polls become involved in actions such as bribery, provocations, and pressure on other people, this will violate the law, and they can be charged with an offense. However, if they themselves do not vote in the elections or place unmarked ballots in the box, Yoga Soegomo added, this is their right.

According to the chief of BAKIN, the motive for the activity of these groups is not far from a feeling of disturbance and dissatisfaction. "If later on there are disturbances because of them, they must bear the responsibility," added Yoga Soegomo.

Regarding the activity of G-30-S/PKI [abortive Communist coup of 1965] detainees who have been released, the chief of BAKIN said that up to now they have done nothing that is dangerous. "However, the Indonesian people cannot remain indifferent to the situation of their neighbors, such as Malaysia and Thailand, which are still suffering from communist activity. And we cannot say that the communist threat and danger do not exist," said the chief of BAKIN, Yoga Soegomo.

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CSO: 4213/40

INDONESIAN RELATIONS WITH CHINA

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 13 Feb 82 p 28

[Article by A Dahana: "Score Between Jakarta and Beijing: 1 - 1"]

[Excerpts] The principal obstacle to the development of normal relations between Indonesia and the Chinese People's Republic [PRC] is the support of the giant Asian country of the outlawed Indonesian Communist Party [PKI]. In replying to Jakarta's complaints and criticism on the question up to the present Beijing has gotten around the matter through the use of old rhetoric. For example, by stating that this support was just party propaganda that has no connection with the government now in power in mainland China. And meanwhile the radio which reportedly is located in one of the provinces in South China continues its propaganda in support of the PKI. On the other hand, Jakarta has firmly demanded that if China wants normal relations, the propaganda must be stopped.

In that connection Beijing is very sensitive about one matter, that is, the issue of "one China" against "two China's," which involves the question of Taiwan. China only wants to have diplomatic relations with a given country provided that country only recognizes the PRC as the sole Chinese state.

In recent weeks the issue of "two China's," has livened up the effort to normalize relations between Jakarta and Beijing. The story begins with the revelation of the "secret visit" of the Prime Minister of Taiwan, Sun Yun-hsuan, to Jakarta from 7 to 11 December 1981.

The report made Beijing pay close attention. The official weekly publication in English, BEIJING REVIEW, on 21 December 1981 carried a column with the headline, "The Indonesian Authorities Are Taking Steps Toward the Creation of Two China's." Quoting Western press agencies, the magazine said that Prime Minister Sun had been accorded treatment appropriate to a chief of state. Meanwhile, military assistance and increasingly close economic relations were the principal items discussed between Sun and his party with the Indonesian side.

Seeing these signs the article concluded: "In dealing with China the Indonesian authorities are adopting a two-level tactic. On the one hand they state that they only support a "one China" policy and say that

reestablishment of relations with the PRC is only a question of time. However, on the other hand they are engaged in strengthening relations with Taiwan in all fields."

Whatever is behind Jakarta's action, it is clear that this has taken Beijing by surprise. Further, that country is currently busy repairing its relations with Southeast Asia in accordance with its strategy of isolating Vietnam (and the Soviet Union). Perhaps also the Beijing criticism aimed at Jakarta is closely related to the soft Indonesian attitude toward Hanoi, because Jakarta sees the PRC as a more serious threat.

During the period of the cold war, when the PRC felt surrounded and isolated by America and its allies, support for the "national liberation movement" (PRC rhetoric for leftist traitors [pembelot kiri] and communists) had a major role. That was used as a psychological weapon against countries that were unfriendly, pro-American, or followed the "two China's" policy. Thailand was the most relevant example. At the time Bangkok's foreign policy followed Washington and was friendly with Taipei, Beijing was busy with massive propaganda supporting the "national liberation movement" in that country. So continuous was the propaganda that it made no one knows how many people believe that Thailand was overwhelmed by civil war and the government in Bangkok tomorrow or the day after would fall. However, when Bangkok began to take a distance from Washington and recognized the PRC, the propaganda was reduced.

However that may be, raising the question of two China's is a new phase in the process of normalization of relations between Jakarta and Beijing. Up to now, in its contacts with Jakarta, Beijing has never touched on the issue of two China's, whereas increasingly close relations between Jakarta and Taipei, particularly in the economic field, have been a feature for a long time.

Is Beijing using the same tactics toward Jakarta as it used toward Bangkok in the 1960's? This is still a puzzle. If the answer to this question is "yes," the following question is whether the abandonment of Beijing support for the PKI remnants can be "bartered" against the willingness of Jakarta to sacrifice its close relations with Taiwan. This is a question whose answer will be hard to find.

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CSO: 4213/40

OIL, GEOTHERMAL ENERGY POTENTIAL

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 4 Feb 82 p 7

[Article: "Indonesian Petroleum Potential Is As Much As 112 Billion Barrels; Petroleum Will Not Be Used Up for 6-7 More Generations"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, PELITA--The principal director of Pertamina, Dr Joedo Sumbono, has stated that the Indonesian petroleum potential is at least 112 billion barrels, while the oil that has been found and produced only amounts to 32-34 billion barrels. In this way there are still 80 billion barrels more in terms of our petroleum reserves and potential.

He said that the oil reserves will run out one day, but not in our generation --perhaps 6-7 generations in the future--because our petroleum reserves are still substantial.

Joedo said that oil is a strategic commodity which can be exported and can meet domestic fuel needs. However, on the other hand we also have geothermal resources which can be developed.

The chief of the Planning and Exploitation Sub-Directorate of Pertamina, M A Warga Dalem, points out that each megawatt (MW) of geothermal energy which is developed saves 35 barrels of petroleum. If 35 barrels of petroleum are saved each day, this means 12,775 barrels of oil per year. At an oil export price of \$34 per barrel, this means a savings of \$434,350 per year. Another benefit of the use of geothermal energy is that it fits in with the needs of isolated areas. The layout and manner of operation of a PLTP unit [Geothermal Electricity Development Unit] is relatively simple, and the cost of construction and operation is relatively small, compared with PLTU [Steam Electricity Generation Plants]. The addition of further units in the future is relatively inexpensive.

The question of the energy crisis has long been with us. For example, in the 1950's it was said that reserves of petroleum would be used up within 10 years (by 1960). However, in 1960 the world did not come to an end, and reserves were still estimated at 10-11 years more. In 1970 a similar cry was heard, but reserves have continued at the same level.

What is clear, he said, is that although the increase in the use of oil has risen quickly, people have also been able to find new sources of oil. This

is because during recent years we have made extensive use of advanced technology in drilling on land, and this kind of technology has also been used for drilling at sea. Indonesian waters still have areas whose petroleum potential is rather good. At present we are drilling at sea in depths of 200 meters, whereas we can drill in depths up to 500 meters.

Meanwhile, by producing oil by only crudely controlling the production wells, we are only obtaining 20-25 percent of the oil available, which means that 75 percent of the oil remains in the ground.

He reviewed the development of energy requirements and noted that each year these amount to 50-55,000 barrels per day in oil equivalents. He said that if oil requirements continue to grow at a rate of 10-11 percent per year, in 7 years consumption will double.

He said that the reason why geothermal energy is of interest is because among other things our potential is rather large--about 10,000 MW, most of which is found in Java (about 5,500 MW). There are 206 known sources of geothermal energy, whereas the number of volcanoes in Indonesia is about 149.

Discussions with foreign investors have developed the view that a new field will be economical if it produces more than 300 MW. The economic geothermal potential in Java is about 4,650 MW.

Warga Dalem said that at present the trend of the efforts undertaken by Pertamina is toward the handling of all forms of energy. Based on Presidential Decision 16/1974, Pertamina is considered to have the capacity of carrying out exploration surveys and exploitation of geothermal sources of energy for the generation of electricity. However, Pertamina is obliged to sell the electricity developed from geothermal energy to the PLN [State Electricity Enterprise].

Pertamina geothermal working areas are found in Banten, Cibeureum, Pelabuhan Ratu (Cisolok), Kamojang-Darajat, Bali, and Dieng. The areas currently being worked are Kamojang and Dieng.

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CSO: 4213/40

BRIEFS

OIL TO THAILAND--Jakarta, PELITA--An agreement to purchase crude oil amounting to 10,000 barrels per day during 1982 was signed yesterday [26 January] between Pertamina and the Petroleum Authority of Thailand, of the Kingdom of Thailand. The signatures were affixed to the agreement at the central office of Pertamina in Jakarta by the principal director of Pertamina, Dr Joedo Sumbono, and Tongchat Hongladaromp (Governor of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand), in the presence of Thai Ambassador Chooy Kannawat and officials of both countries. The principal director of Pertamina, in his speech on the occasion, said that the agreement with the Petroleum Authority of Thailand was in the framework of mutual cooperation between the ASEAN countries which are members of the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE). This is the fourth agreement entered into since the first agreement was signed on 26 October 1979. According to Dr Joedo Sumbono, at the end of 1979 the total quantity of crude oil supplied by Indonesia to Thailand was 5,000 barrels per day of the SLC and Handil Crude types. Later, in 1980 the supply of crude oil by Pertamina to the Petroleum Authority of Thailand was raised to 10,000 barrels per day, consisting of Handil and Duri crude. And in 1981 the total was raised to 15,000 barrels per day, including 10,000 barrels of the Handil type and the remainder of other types. He said that in 1982 Pertamina would supply 10,000 barrels per day of Handil crude at the official price in effect, and the manner of payment would be by opening a Letter of Credit. In his speech the governor of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand said that Pertamina's assistance to Thailand began since the oil crisis arose and at the time of the war between Iran and Iraq. Pertamina had accelerated the supply of oil to Thailand. [Excerpts] [Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 27 Jan 82 p 7] 5170

CSO: 4213/40

KPNLF Cadres Spread Propaganda Against SRV, DK

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Mar 82 p 5

[Article by John Laird]

[Text]

KAMPUCHEAN administrators loyal to former prime minister, Son Sann, say they have graduated over 2,000 Kampucheans from political schools on the Thai-Kampuchean border and sent them back to Kampuchea to spread a message that is equally anti-Khmer Rouge and anti-Vietnamese.

Interviews with two officials of Son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) here and in neighbouring Nong Chan camp revealed a continuing deep animosity toward the Khmer Rouge held by 80,000 civilian KPNLF supporters.

This animosity has been identified by Western diplomats in Bangkok as a major factor preventing Son Sann from associating too closely with the present Khmer Rouge leadership, which is widely regarded as

sharing responsibility for the deaths of over one million Kampucheans under the ousted Pol Pot regime.

A report from Peking yesterday said Son Sann would not meet Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan or former Kampuchean head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk there for talks aimed at setting up a tripartite coalition government to oppose the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea.

Thou Ton, the chief administrator of this camp of 40,000, said that 2,000 Kampuchean graduates of Nong Samet's political school had returned to Kampuchea since 1980 "to explain to people about white and black."

"When newcomers arrive here they do a course in the political school. We have to train them to want to go back," he said.

"We tell them how

to work inside Kampuchea, how to tell people to help us. We tell them about the Khmer Rouge and the Vietnamese — both are very bad, equally bad," he said.

Thou Ton added that 500 people attend the school at one time, for courses lasting 13-16 weeks, and that similar schools existed in three other KPNLF border camps.

Nong Samet and Nong Chan are the largest, run by Kampucheans but fed by the UN World Food Programme. The inhabitants are not regarded as Thailand-based refugees but as "displaced persons" by the Thai Government.

Both Nong Samet and Nong Chan lie several hundred metres outside Thailand's first line of defence — a fortified trench stretching along the border.

In Nong Chan, Chum Chheang, who

identified himself as the first deputy chairman of the camp's External Relations Committee, said that the "Kampuchea problem is the withdrawal of the Vietnamese force and prevention of a return of the Khmer Rouge."

"We would like to solve the Kampuchea problem in any way, but we are afraid of the Khmer Rouge," said Chum Chheang, who added that his father and two sisters were executed by the former regime.

Asked about his attitude to the Vietnamese-installed Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh, he said it had no power of decision-making. But he added that it was also composed of Kampucheans.

"Kampuchean people from every side should discuss together for freedom of the Kampuchea people," he said. — AP

ASEAN RELATIONS WITH U.S., PRC CRITICIZED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 14 Dec 81 pp 2,4

[Column: "Talking Together"]

[Text] The expansionist policy of the United States and China in Southeast Asia has long made this area a region of military conflict. The real nature of U.S. expansionism today is no different from adding more fuel to a crackling fire.

It is not necessary to refer to facts we already know about what attracts the imperialists and expansionists to Southeast Asia. This area contains many nations, great amounts of raw materials, consumer products for use in factories, and cheap labor, and it is a good place for investment. Moreover, Southeast Asia is also important strategically as the area extends to the Indian Ocean and Central Asia, and includes the [Pacific] basin also.

Southeast Asia is a confluence of individual [states'] strategic interests primarily political and economic, for expansionists such as the United States, Maoists and other reactionary forces.

The interests vary but one thing they have in common is that they work against Asian people's liberation movements, and against the unifying of forces for young nations' independence. These are obstacles to their interference in Southeast Asia. The American imperialists and their Chinese partners compete with each other to control Southeast Asia without taking into account the appearance of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea on the map of progress.

The three competing forces mentioned have different positions on how to solve the problems concerning those nations which have joined together, such as ASEAN. This group consists of Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Moreover, each nation has a different attitude toward the United States depending on its history, especially the different relationships with the great powers that want to control the area in terms of politics, economics, and defense.

ASEAN leaders have formally announced that they did not agree with the idea of making the association into a unitary military group. They want the Asian nations to be neutral, and lands of peace and security, and to assure economic

and cultural progress. However, the United States tries to make the ASEAN nations work against the nations of Indochina by claiming it would be resistance to "Soviet aggression," and this has led them to have military relationships.

The U.S. attempt to do this has never worked.

Thailand also participated in allowing U.S. military bases to be set up in order to resist Vietnam, and at the present time Bangkok has signed military agreements with the Pentagon. This does not include the U.S. war equipment that they had previously. Tens of thousands of refugees, many of whom are Pol Pot's henchmen, hid themselves in Thailand among the Thai-Kampuchean border, and have sometimes attacked the Kampuchean border.

Thailand has never shown any sign of making up with either Kampuchea or Vietnam. This is because Thailand does not want to have neighborly discussions between countries. The Indonesian publication MERDEKA has said, "The attitude of the ASEAN nations towards Kampuchea is dictated by Thailand." This interest is not a result of the threat of Kampuchea or Vietnam as the United States had propagandized. The Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila himself admitted recently that he has not seen "any signs of a military invasion of Thailand from Kampuchea." All this indicates that the posture of Thailand will not be expressed for its own advantage.

It is not that the Philippines will not have any effect from the two U.S. bases, the naval and air force bases, on its territory. The same holds for Singapore and Malaysia, who previously had signed a five-nation defense treaty (England, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, and Malaysia) to resist any national revolutionary activities in Southeast Asia, especially against the nations of Indochina.

Today the United States is trying to revive its old treaties because in theory the agreements are still valid. Therefore, the member nations must unavoidably take part in other military movements that the other members are involved with. For example, ANZUS consists of Australia, New Zealand, and the United States, which only widens and continues the military cooperation in Southeast Asia, and supports a plan of resistance to Kampuchea (such as a meeting concerning the Kampuchea problem, and supporting Pol Pot's representatives at the United Nations, etc).

Military spending for the member nations of the organization was increased under orders of the United States and expansionist China. This also includes military agreements among the ASEAN nations. According to an American publication, DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, "Since 1975 all ASEAN member nations have had to double their spending, and for 1980 their expenses will increase by as much as 47 percent as compared with the past year."

Therefore, something has happened in the ASEAN group. That is, the work that was expected when they first formed the organization is in conflict with the external military treaty and other agreements of the member nations. This agreement has prompted the ASEAN nations to confront other nations in Indochina: Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, even though the ASEAN nations are able

to join together to resist the imperialists and the expansionists, to build up their economies independently, to make a great deal of progress, and to maintain peace and security in this area.

Thus, considering the facts mentioned above, the imperialists are trying to cause splits among the nations, and are trying to find ways to weaken them. The U.S. imperialists and the ever-guileless ASEAN nations do not accept that the nations of Indochina are not isolated and get their support from socialist countries and other progressive nations. This is the foundation for the nations' independence. Meanwhile, for their own interests, the United States and expansionist Beijing support the ASEAN nations in return for their national independence. This is because, even though the military agreement is limited, it can greatly reduce the ability to exercise political independence in Southeast Asia as well as on the international stage.

ASEAN not only has no desire to meet with the other nations of Indochina as nations in the region in solving local problems and for their own benefit, but it has also destroyed the basic idea of building peace and security in Southeast Asia. We can therefore evaluate the ASEAN nations' efforts to call an international conference on Kampuchea. These nations prolonged the meeting, but the real reason for this was the challenges of the imperialists that sought injustice with all kinds of tricks against the nonaligned nations that did not join the group in Asia.

In all of their policies in Asia, particularly in Southeast Asia, the imperialists and expansionist China have pushed the ASEAN nations into a "minefield" because they would hate not getting the advantage in Asia. They put themselves in danger as they did when they began to deal with Japan, and particularly with China.

Not long ago, the Malaysian Minister of Home Affairs Ghazali bin Shafie spoke at a seminar in Kuala Lumpur. The purpose was to look at the danger from China to peace and stability in Malaysia as well as in neighboring countries, and in the Asian countries in general. The minister of home affairs continued by saying that the ultimate goal of Chinese policy was to take this area over under Beijing. The French publication FIGARO observed concerning the resistance of Southeast Asia against China that the primary threat in this area was from China. At the same time, because of political ties between Beijing and the United States, the Chinese threat in Southeast Asia has increased.

Therefore, politics under the Reagan administration has added confusion to the heated situation in Asia, particularly in Southeast Asia. This political strategy had already been used in Japan and China, and it is being used with no regard for any benefits to Southeast Asian nations and conflicts with the objectives set by ASEAN. We can conclude that the ultimate goal of the American imperialists and expansionist China conflicts with the independence of the Southeast Asian nations as well as with the ASEAN nations who want this to be a zone of peace and security.

From what has happened to the situation in Southeast Asia as a result of expansionist China and the United States, the only thing that can be done is to build up the unity of the Indochina countries and ASEAN to resist the imperialists and expansionist China. Forgetting or underestimating the importance of this unity would be a great mistake that might not be able to be corrected in the future.

U.S. USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS CITED

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 12 Dec 81 pp 2, 3

[Article: "U.S.A.: Echoes From Use of Chemical Weapons in War of Aggression in Indochina"]

[Text] Last 23 September, R. Schweiker, secretary of the U.S. Health and welfare Department, officially confirmed heavy use by the United States of chemical weapons in Indochina. This was the first time that the secretary stated openly that this inhuman act not only destroyed people's lives in Indochina, but also had done some harm to U.S. soldiers who were serving in the Indochina war.

The experts in the Health and Welfare Department who had done research concerning the effects of chemical substances recently forced the U.S. Defense Department to reveal for the first time what they once had carefully kept secret about the amount and application of the chemical weapons. The official government report announced that during the Indochina war the United States had released 45 million liters of many different chemical substances in clouds and fog.

Based on the statement by Schweiker, we can see that the United States had carried out special air operations hundreds of times by using chemical weapons on the countries of Indochina. These weapons not only had harmful effects on the armed forces and the local people but also important parts of U.S. military units that did not realize the harmful effects from close contact with the chemical substances. This is because the U.S. Government did not warn those whose work was related to chemical weapons about the dangers of those weapons. Many years later, those Americans still experience the harmful effects resulting from the criminal acts by the warlords of the Defense Department, particularly in terms of their own health and that of their offspring.

According to the U.S. Health and Welfare Department there were 1,200 U.S. Air Force personnel who worked on the planes releasing the chemical substances, and 60,000 Army soldiers who worked in the area where the chemical substances were released.

Many years later these soldiers filed their complaints at the war veterans headquarters. Most of them were unhappy with the sudden deterioration of

their health. This included, for example, rashes which broke out on the skin resulting from [kalaw=translation unknown] acid, headaches, liver problems, pain in the esophagus, inability to move many parts of the body normally, and the development of severe cases of cancer. The U.S. Health and Welfare Department experts confirmed that the occurrence of those ailments, including cancer and mental abnormalities, undoubtedly was related to the use of the chemical substances.

The major chemical substance the United States used in Indochina were "dioxins." According to U.S., Vietnamese, Australian, and Swiss medical doctors and chemical researchers, even extremely low dosages of dioxins could have a serious effect on people's health and on that of their offspring born later, because of the effect of these chemicals on the reproductive organs. Based on the LONDON TIMES which had surveyed the U.S. veterans, there were 538 U.S. soldiers who were sprayed by chemical substances during the Vietnam war, and 99 of their children were born with physical and mental deformities. The children of many veterans who had asked for compensation from the Health and Welfare Department were born deaf, blind, or with other defects. These incidents were confirmed by the Health Department documents themselves. This is the echo of the U.S. criminal acts that were carried out in Indochina.

That the U.S. Government had to admit its barbaric use of chemical weapons greatly agitated the 2.5 million Americans who participated in the Indochina war. These people demanded free physical examinations. Veterans having any signs of the disease mentioned above submitted a legal claim to ask the government to pay for their [medical] treatment for the injuries resulting from the inhuman acts of the United States. The movement of the struggle mentioned above is widespread.

There is no further doubt that the U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig knew very well about the operations, and the findings of the U.S. Health and Welfare Department experts. Haig thought that U.S. willingness to disclose its use of chemical weapons in Vietnam would cause an outpouring of protest in the country and in the world.

Because of the reasons mentioned, a few days before Schweiker made the official announcement, Alexander Haig rushed to announce in West Berlin that the Soviet Union had probably used chemical weapons and germ warfare in Southeast Asia and Afghanistan. However, Haig's statement and additional explanations of the U.S. State Department concerning "violations" by the Soviet Union of international agreements, did not fool world opinion at all. The U.S. Secretary of State's tricks and propaganda were defeated. The U.S.'s use of chemical weapons remains the same.

The United States' use of chemical weapons in Southeast Asia, particularly in Indochina, was unprecedentedly massive. The first reports that the United States had used chemical weapons widely appeared at an international scientific conference in Paris in 1970 in which U.S. scientists participated. According to records of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam that were released to the committee for arms limitation on 20 June 1980, the United States had used chemical substances in Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

According to incomplete figures during wartime, the United States had released more than 100,000 tons of chemical substances over South Vietnam, over 40 percent of the rice fields and approximately 44 percent of the jungle. They were sprayed with chemical weapons many times; 70 percent of the coconut and 150,000 tropical trees were destroyed. Large numbers of rice fields which once used to be good places for planting, and also jungle areas, have been turned into semidesert filled with mud. The loss of the jungle caused changes in the lives of the living things whose home was the jungle. There has been a rapid doubling in the number of insects and dangerous animals. At the same time, tropical diseases have become widespread. The criminal U.S. chemical warfare destroyed 2 million people. Of these, 3,500 people were killed instantly, and the rest suffered pain and misery caused by the chemical substances. Based on the American experts' statement, the destructive effects of the chemicals cannot be measured in advance for humans. As for the environment, it will take many decades for everything to return to its normal condition. With no regard for international law, the United States had used large amounts of chemical substances in Laos and Kampuchea. In Kampuchea, chemical weapons destroyed 85 percent of the jungle and killed 50 percent of the animals, and thousands of Kampucheans were faced with misery from the diseases caused by the effects of the chemicals.

To slander the Soviet Union, leading U.S. circles told lies and fabrications. They praised the U.S. armed forces and their dirty work in Southeast Asia. In order to cover up the weapons' destructive effects on their own people, they tried to create unbelievable fairytales in order to deflect world interest from the rapid preparation for war using chemical weapons and neutron weapons which they recently have been steadily producing.

No matter what the United States does, it cannot keep its crime secret. The protests of Americans who are faced with the misfortune from this risk, and the criminal acts of their government in Southeast Asia, have confirmed the cruel crimes of the American imperialists.

9884

CSO: 4206/22

UN OFFICIAL DENIES ALLEGED FORCED LABOR

BK100201 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 10 Mar 82 p 6

[Text] The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office here yesterday denied allegations made last week in the Dutch Parliament that some political prisoners are being employed as forced labour in one of its projects in Laos. "I haven't heard of such a thing," said William Prattley, regional director of the UNDP here. "It is not the policy of the United Nations to get involved in anything like this as that would violate the basic human rights."

Prattley said the Laotian refugees may have been "recycled" back from Thailand to Laos, but denied reports of them being used as forced labour.

Construction of a small irrigation dam in Ban Houai Tomo, some 30 kilometres from Pakse, is being financed by the Dutch Government with technical assistance from the UN Food and Agricultural Organization and the UNDP and the project started in 1978.

The controversy surfaced in the Hague last Thursday in the Dutch Parliament when Kess Van Dijk, minister for development, told Parliament that the Dutch Government filed a protest late last year with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) over the alleged forced labour concerning the project. His speech prompted the Dutch Government to threaten to halt its financial support for the programme.

But a Dutch Embassy spokesman here yesterday categorically denied that his government will halt the construction of the dam. "As far as I know the programme is still on," said the spokesman in stark contradiction to the statement made by Dijk. "There is something misleading about this," he added.

Meanwhile, the spokesman for the Laotian Embassy yesterday insisted that "I went to inspect the project in 1979 but found no evidence of forced labour."

Asked if the situation could have changed since 1979, the spokesman replied: "I don't know."

CSO: 4220/310

BRIEFS

VIENTIANE ROAD REPAIR--Vientiane, 16 Mar (KPL)--The repairing work of Route No 10 is by now 50 percent completed, the head of Bridge and Road Construction Enterprises, Khamsen Senmuang, recently disclosed. The enterprises' workers also repaired and constructed a number of barges and a bridge in Houai Phonmi Village, Vientiane Province. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 16 Mar 82]

ROUTE NO 13 REPAIR PROJECT--Vientiane, 15 Mar (KPL)--Feasibility papers on reconstruction of Route No 13, sponsored by the UNDP in collaboration with Danish Kampsax Company, was handed over to Himmakone Manotham, head of the Office of the Ministry of the Ministry of Communication, Public Works and Transport. The presentation of the document was done by George Thompson, general manager of Kampsax branch in Thailand, in the presence of Caspar Kamp, UNDP's representative to Laos. The Kampsax engineering team had started its feasibility study of Route No 13, from Vientiane to Savannakhet Province, in mid-1981. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 15 Mar 82]

FILM COOPERATION WITH USSR--Vientiane, 16 Mar (OANA/KPL)--An agreement on film cooperation between Lao and USSR was signed here on 15 March. The signatories were: On the Lao side Ounheuan Phounsavat, deputy-minister of propaganda, information culture and tourism, and on the Soviet side Olek Novichyozin, vice-chairman of the USSR Film Makers Union. The head of the Lao Cinematographic Department, and counselor to the Soviet Embassy to Laos, were also present. On this occasion, the Soviet Film Makers Union delegation presented the Propaganda Ministry with 100,000 rubles worth aid of cinematographic devices. The aid included a set of camera, three projectors and one generator. [Text] [BK170307 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 16 Mar 82]

IDEOLOGICAL COURSE CLOSED--Vientiane, 16 Mar (KPL)--The political training school of the Education, Sports and Religious Affairs Ministry, on 13 March, closed its ideological course after more than 3 months of sitting. Present on this occasion were Phoumi Vongvichit, Political Bureau member of the party CC, vice-premier and minister of education, sports and religious affairs, along with other officials. On this occasion Phoumi Vongvichit appealed to all participants to further improve their contribution to the national socialist construction tasks, and to correctly implement the theory in their daily life. [Text] [BK170307 Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 16 Mar 82]

SRI LANKA ENVOY'S CALL--Vientiane, 13 Mar (KPL)--Arthur Basnayake, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Sri Lanka, on 10 March called on Khamphai Boupha, acting minister for foreign affairs, to take leave of him after ending his mission here. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of warm friendship. [Text] [BK150627 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 13 Mar 82]

WHO REPRESENTATIVE'S CALL--Vientiane, 13 Mar (KPL)--Khamphai Boupha, acting minister for foreign affairs, on 12 March received here Dr Nakajima, regional director of the World Health Organization for Asia. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of warm friendship. Issue on cooperation between the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the World Health Organization was the main topic of the discussion. Dr Nakajima arrived here on 11 March to discuss aid program on public health work with Lao officials. [Text] [BK150627 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 13 Mar 82]

TU DELEGATION TO USSR--Vientiane, 11 Mar (KPL)--A delegation of the Federation of Lao Trade Union [LFTU] CC led by its Chairman Sanan Southichak who is also member of the party CC, on 10 March left Vientiane to attend the 17th congress of the Soviet Trade Union which will open from 16-20 March, in Moscow. Seeing the delegation off at the airport were Bountham Khounlapviset-Akhom, vice chairman of the LFTU, and Khamlouat Silakon, deputy minister of communications, public works, and transport. V.F. Sobchenko, Soviet ambassador to Laos, was also on hand. [Text] [BK120525 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 11 Mar 82]

PROVINCIAL PARTY CONFERENCE CLOSED--Vientiane, 11 Mar (KPL)--The party congress of Northern Luang Namtha Province, on 6 March was closed after 5 days of sitting. The provincial congress was under the chairmanship of Khamvan Vongkham, deputy secretary of the provincial party setup. The conference reviewed its past 6-year activities and adopted the party action plan for the next 3 years. [Text] [BK120525 Vientiane KPL in English 0927 GMT 11 Mar 82]

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION ON ROUTE 13--Vientiane, 9 Mar (OANA/KPL)--A 323 x 8 m bridge on Kading River on Route No 13 linking Vientiane and Khammouane provinces which has been under construction since the beginning of this year, is now 30 percent completed. When completed, this bridge, which can support the load of up to 80 tons, will considerably ease the north-south transportation flow--one of the urgent tasks in the national development programs. The construction process of this bridge is in cooperation with the Soviet engineering team. [Text] [BK120525 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 9 Mar 82]

ROAD REPAIR IN NORTHERN PROVINCE--Vientiane, 11 Mar (KPL)--A 40-km damaged road was repaired in the northern province of Luang Namtha by the Provincial Public Works Service in cooperation with the local effort. This was completed after 3 months of work, an achievement of the said service and people to salute the 3rd congress of the party. [Text] [BK120525 Vientiane KPL in English 0930 GMT 11 Mar 82]

TRADE DELEGATION TO GDR--Vientiane, 5 Mar (OANA/KPL)--A Lao delegation of state-owned trade enterprises led by its Acting Manager Inhom Phinit, left Vientiane for the German Democratic Republic on 3 March. The delegation is to take part in the Leipzig International Fair to be held in the middle of this month. A draft of protocol on goods exchange between Laos and GDR will also be discussed by the two countries' officials. [Text] [BK090033 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 5 Mar 82]

PROVINCIAL COOPERATION WITH SRV--Vientiane, 6 Mar (OANA/KPL)--A memorandum on cooperation between two sister provinces of Lao Xieng Khouang and Vietnamese Nghe Tinh was signed on 1 March, at Xieng Khouang Administrative Office. The signatories were Loyia and Vi Chien Thang, respectively member of the Administrative Committee of Xieng Khouang Province and vice chairman of the People's Committee of Nghe Tinh Province. The memorandum spells out in particular that Vietnamese Nghe Tinh Province is to assist the Lao province in the construction of a guest-house and the irrigation project in Kham District. The Vietnamese side is also to find most appropriate rice seeds for Pak District, and help to work on fish breeding. [Text] [BK090033 Vientiane KPL in English 0939 GMT 6 Mar 82]

'SIANG PASASON'NHAN DAN' COOPERATION--Vientiane, 6 Mar (OANA/KPL)--The Vietnamese daily NHAN DAN on 5 March presented the Lao SAENG PASASON paper with over 100 books on the journalistic field. This is one example of cooperation between the two countries' dailies in accordance with the terms of agreement [singular as received] on cooperation signed in April and December 1981. [Text] [BK090033 Vientiane KPL in English 0941 GMT 6 Mar 82]

ROAD REPAIR IN SARAVANE--Vientiane, 8 Mar (KPL)--Thirty-five kilometers of damaged road have already been repaired by local people of Dakchoung District, Saravane Province. [Excerpt] [BK090033 Vientiane KPL in English 0929 GMT 8 Mar 82]

ROADS REPAIRED IN SARAVANE--Vientiane, 23 Feb (KPL)--Local inhabitants in Laman Village, district of the same name, the southern Saravane Province, since January have repaired 50 km of damaged roads. [Text] [BK030953 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 23 Feb 82]

CSO: 4220/311

TIME NOT YET RIPE FOR ELECTIONS; ISLAMIC PRINCIPLES NEEDED

Karachi JANG in Urdu 12 Feb 82 p 9

[Article by M. Younus Qureishi: "Are We Destroying the Forest in Search of the Trees? Hoodliganism in Politics Has Dangerous Consequences;" Reprinted from the Muslim League Weekly]

[Text] It is a well known dictum that a nation gets the government it deserves. Before criticizing the government, it is necessary to criticize the political leaders. Pakistan was created by the Muslim League, which believed implicitly that in culture, manners, religion, racial characteristics, dress, customs, calendar, literature, food, habitat and way of life the Moslems were a separate nation and would not survive as a minority in India. This concept was ignored after the creation of Pakistan, and the love of power superseded all other considerations. By the precepts of sociology, this organization should not have died out, but its early enthusiasm, cooperation and strength were sacrificed to political wheeling and dealing for the sake of material benefits. This party was large and powerful, but it was not founded on the fundamental principle of the public good. The party's unity thus proved to be transitory. The disciples of the leaders benefited the most, but the time finally came when they found themselves standing alone waiting for new pastures. In India, on the contrary, the Congress Party is still in power.

In a free country, the people are the source of power. But there are two sides to every argument. What matters is not merely the majority of the people but also their ability, which includes intelligence, political awareness, conduct, freedom from outside pressure, knowledge of regions, classes and tribes, and most important of all, finesse in domestic and foreign affairs. In a country with limitless resources and full employment, where the people are not the puppets of the rulers and do not flatter or worship them, the people can, in special situations, plumb the psychological depths of their leaders. Such people, moreover, are law-abiding. In Britain even the thieves are not without conscience. I remember that once in London a burglar broke into an officer's safe and stole all his cash and valuables, but left his George Cross with a note saying: "Since you risked your life to win this Cross, I am not so cruel as to steal it from you."

It seems, then, that even thieves have a moral standard. In Britain, 90 per cent of the criminals confess their crimes, whereas here we give asylum to murderers and hoodlums, hoping to make use of their services when necessary. This lack of morality exists in even the most prominent personalities in Pakistan.

Here is an example to illustrate what is meant by morality. Mr Clement Atlee was once presiding over a Labour Party meeting during the elections following World War II. One of the speakers, carried away by his own rhetoric, declared that if Churchill was reelected, he would get them into another war. Atlee interrupted, saying that the speaker was exaggerating. "Mr Churchill is as patriotic as any one of us; what we are saying is that if he is reelected, he will not avoid war as successfully as we will." This is an example of political honesty. Can we offer a similar example in Pakistan?

One remembers the mud-slinging that goes on here during election campaigns. The age and experience of the voters are also important considerations. Young people cannot make correct decisions because they are easily influenced by propaganda and by their own emotions.

The 1970 elections, which were generally fair, are a good example. We elected Mujibur Rahman as the leader of East Pakistan, who in turn acted against the fundamental principle of the creation of Pakistan and split the country apart. He did not work within the constitution; his action was thus tantamount to treason against people and country. We then had 90,000 troops in this country; a similar number of allied troops under the Southeast Asia Command surrendered to the Japanese in Singapore. Are elections, of which we are so enamoured, the crowning glory of Western democracy? Some will say that what happened was the result of a conspiracy; if so, such conspiracies can occur again. Did not Karmal seek the help of foreign troops to stay in power?

Respect for the law does not seem to be in our nature. [We mean it] when we say that man is a political animal. When Socrates was sentenced to death for not believing in the gods, he chose to die out of respect for the law. He was offered a chance to escape to sanctuary, but he refused, preferring to drink poison rather than become a fugitive from the law and destroy all that he had lived for. How do we measure up to the historical standards of ancient times? We are still barbarians, cutting down the forest in search of the trees.

The ultimate goal of our legislators is absolute power. Leaders can rouse public opinion by raising a hue and cry, but the leaders themselves cannot agree on the most insignificant issues, especially not when Pakistan is passing through the most dangerous period of its history. They want to force the government, but is the government itself not aware of the wise, necessary, numerous or very positive measures that are needed? It is the truth, even though it will upset those individuals who are using democracy to gain political power. These are the same persons who indulged in hooliganism against the former government. Why undergo the hardship of waiting for the establishment of Islam in Pakistan? Where is the wise and able leadership that can face the dangers from the East and the West that have sandwiched Pakistan between them?

Politicians should not use students as their tools, and Islamic adventure-seekers should not use cultivators of terrorist and subversive activities to achieve their own ends. If such tendencies are not stopped, politicians will never be able to stand in the first rank of leaders and guide the country, a role they consider theirs by right. Political hooliganism has dangerous consequences, and the wish to gain power by reprehensible methods can prove disastrous. Fortunately, the responsibility for making domestic policy is in safe hands. But politicians will have to unlearn many things and forget many others. They will have to think things out dispassionately; otherwise, under present conditions, the consequences can be dangerous. The country needs high skills, not mediocrity. Democracy implies self-knowledge and abstention from unseemly acts. Democracy has never been achieved by hijacking planes, by political assassinations and vendettas.

We should condemn such evil acts. Those individuals who are being trained in the use of weapons in Kabul; those who are involved in sabotage and espionage; those who are fighting a guerilla war and a war against their own country; those who are pillaging and killing; those who assassinate particular individuals and shoot civilians and are trying to destroy civil life and law and order in Pakistan can never be called patriots. Our enemies have brought war to us without making a formal declaration of war. The danger may worsen in the future, but politicians continue to prattle about elections. We cannot establish democracy in the face of such conditions. It is necessary first to exterminate the enemies of the country. The survival of our society depends on the armed forces, whose duty it is to protect the country from domestic and foreign enemies. The armed forces are united and share the same objective, they are patriotic, organized and unmatched in their military capability. Were it not for them, we would have been led to destruction by the former dictator. Whether in war or peace, it is the army that has come to the aid of the country and has given security and strength to Pakistan. It will be receiving advanced weapons soon, which will allow it to defend the country more efficiently. It is to be remembered that the armed forces are fulfilling their sacred duty.

It is wrong to say that the armed forces would attack the civilian administration, or that they would deprive the politicians of the freedom to establish democracy. The army has gained power solely to protect the constitution and to establish the Islamic order that the people of Pakistan have wanted since the day of independence.

The President of Pakistan has repeatedly proclaimed that he does not want to suspend the 1973 constitution, but he has also clearly stated that he will not tolerate any opposition to an Islamic order and to the founding principle of Pakistan. Politicians should realize that he is not using these as a means to perpetuate his influence. Obviously, it is now the duty of politicians to cooperate with the government in preserving Islam and security in Pakistan. They should forget their common differences and help the government overcome the country's difficulties. The former Pakistan Peoples' Party should prove that it is a responsible party and, by working within the constitution, demonstrate that it can be a loyal opposition party in the assembly. It is necessary now to help the government as much as possible in its efforts to

resolve the present crisis. To propose elections as the solution is not the correct thing to do. Politicians should create a responsible patriotic leadership and wait for a suitable time for democracy. They should consult their own consciences to decide when that time has come. In the meantime, they should undertake self-criticism and find out why the people rose against the former political party. Unbiased scrutiny and thought is needed to arrive at the answer. In any case, when the government of law and order ended in this country, the armed forces came forward to maintain stability. It is to be hoped that the new council will generate responsible leadership and not bring forth hoodlums, crooks, power-hungry elements and victims of provincial favoritism who aim to ignore the present realities and destroy old structures. If they truly have the potential for leadership, they should take account of individuals who regard participation in government as their religious duty. Every man will have to consult his own conscience and decide if there is an immediate need for democracy. Anyway, an elective organization has been established on solid foundations, and it will select individuals who are God-fearing monotheists, who believe in the day of judgment and reckoning and who accept Islam as the way of life.

9863

CSO: 4203/63

RECOMMENDATIONS ON ISLAMIC POLITICAL STRUCTURE

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, March 1: The Council of Islamic Ideology has expressed the hope that the work of formulating an Islamic Political Structure in respect of general election is expected to be completed during the next two to three months.

In a Press release issued here today, the Council denied reports appearing in a section of the Press that the proposed structure was being presented to the President before March 23.

The Press release said: "There have been appearing, from time to time, a number of news items regarding the preparation and completion of the Islamic political structure by the Council of Islamic Ideology. Two days back, there has appeared in a local daily a news item, through the so-called "informed sources" that the Council will present to the President of Pakistan the Islamic political structure before the 23rd March, 1982, and that the Council has received more than 150 replies in response to the questionnaire issued by the Council in respect of the said Islamic political structure. This news is merely a conjecture and is not correct. Neither the Council has received 150 replies to its questionnaire nor the Council is in a position to present the Islamic political structure to the President of Pakistan before March 23, 1982.

"The fact is, the Press release said, the Council has received a limited number of replies from the political parties, other institutions and individuals in response to the questionnaire issued by it to some 300 persons and institutions. These replies are being compiled in a proper form so as to make it convenient for the members of the Council to know the various views pointwise stated in these replies. It is expected that the summary of these replies and pointwise schedule in a classified form will be completed in the next few days. The entire material shall then be placed before the Council at its meeting scheduled to be held at Islamabad during March 7-18.

"After considering the entire material placed before the Council, it will be possible for the Council to give its recommendations a final shape and this work can, in no case, be completed before March 23, as reported in the Press, because the Council has on its agenda of the ensuing meeting the work of codification of Islamic Law of Evidence also. However, it is expected that the work of Islamic political structure in relation to general elections will, Insha-Allah, be completed in the next 2 to 3 months." APP

CSO: 4220/290

SIND GOVERNOR ON ORANGI DEVELOPMENT

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Sind Governor Lt Gen S.M. Abbasi said here yesterday that the present government was determined to accomplish the gigantic task of development of Orangi township, the largest Kutchi Abadi of Asia, having a population of 8 lakh.

Addressing a mammoth gathering in Orangi Township on the occasion of lease-awarding ceremony to the inhabitants of the unplanned area, he said that the Government was fully aware of the problems of this Kutchi Abadi, and added that it would leave no stone unturned to solve them.

He said that the Government had chalked out a comprehensive plan for the development of Orangi Township and had formed an Orangi Development Board, headed by city Mayor Abdus Sattar Afghani. The Board, comprising a full time Project Director, would include the Deputy Commissioner of the area, councillors, and officials, representing the Karachi Development Authority, Karachi Water Management Board, Karachi Electric Supply Corporation, Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, Karachi Transport Corporation and the Kutchi Abadies.

Aerial Survey

Lt Gen. Abbasi said that the Pakistan Air Force had completed the aerial photography of the area, and the maps were now being prepared by the Survey of Pakistan. The maps would help a lot the Orangi Development Board in working out correct development plans for the township.

The survey of the township is progressing well and an area of 6,900 acres has been covered so far, while 2,000 acres of land is being updated by the KMC.

The Governor said that Orangi Development Board would be responsible for a coordinated planning of Orangi Township, with the assistance of various social agencies already working in the area.

Since the overall development of Orangi Township requires a big amount of Rs 30 crore, the World Bank has also been approached for funding the projects which has shown interest in them.

Special Grant

"President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has given a special Federal government grant of Rs 4 crore for water pipelines and Rs 1 crore for the KDA has spent Rs 4 crore and the BCCI Trust is spending Rs 2 crore on different projects water-stand posts, while the KMC has allocated Rs 5 crore of the township," the Governor added.

He said the development work carried out by the KMC in the township this year included the construction of 18-kilometre-long Roads at a cost of Rs 78 lakhs, 35 culverts at Rs 10 lakhs. Water in the area was being supplied through tankers at Rs 1.5 crore, he added.

Lauding the efforts of the residents for carrying out some work on self-help basis, the Governor asked them to cooperate with the Government so that this gigantic task of the development of Orangi Township could be accomplished at a faster pace.

To those hesitating to get their lease documents, the Governor advised that it was in their own interest, as the money recovered from them as fee would exclusively be spent on the development of Orangi by the Board.

The Governor expressed the hope that with the blessing of Almighty Allah and the cooperation of the residents, the development projects of the area would be completed speedily.

Sattar's Assurance

Welcoming the chief guest Mayor Abdus Sattar Afghani assured the inhabitants of Orangi Township that this area one day would be at par with the other developed areas of the city and would be exemplary in its nature, he added.

Mr Afghani said the residents of this area who migrated from former East Pakistan had made tremendous sacrifice for the integrity and solidarity of the country.

He hoped that as a result of personal interest of the Sind Governor, the development projects of the township would be completed at a rapid pace.

The Governor also inaugurated the 18 kilometre-long and 10-foot wide Sharae Orangi, built at a cost of Rs 20 lakh. Besides, he planted a sapling of coconut tree in Orangi Township.

Earlier, Municipal Commissioner, Sajjad Hussain informed the Governor that the population of Orangi formed approximately 40 per cent of the total population of city Kutchi Abadies, with an average density of 160 persons per acre. The household size was 6.4 with 1.5 families per household. The other data and details of the township were explained by Mr Hussain with the help of charts and maps.

Mr Hussain said that 59 sweepers were already working in the area and 50 more would be added. In addition, 100 dustbins would be constructed, besides providing three garbage-lifting vans.

The Governor gave away lease documents to 25 residents of Orangi Township, while 800 more lease papers would be handed over to the inhabitants of the Township.

The ceremony was largely attended, among others, by provincial Housing and Local Government Secretary Salman Faruqi, Mayor Abdus Sattar Afghani, KDA Director-General Z.A. Nizami, Deputy Mayor Yousuf Dada, Municipal Commissioner, Sajjad Hussain and a large number of councillors, including Lady councillors Mrs Zahida Zaidi and Miss Abida Zoomro.

CSO: 4220/290

HYDERABAD COUNCILORS RESIGN IN PROTEST

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 4

[Text] Hyderabad, March 1—Forty-two out of 61 councillors of the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation have tendered their resignations to protest against the postponement of the special meeting convened on Feb 23 to consider the no-confidence motion against the mayor.

In a joint resignation submitted to the Municipal commissioner today, they have requested him to present the joint resignation in the Council for acceptance.

Meanwhile, when contacted, the Municipal Commissioner, Mr Inayatullah Junejo, told APP that he had received the resignations and was in touch with law and other concerned department in this connection.

When asked whether a special meeting would be convened to consider the joint resignation of 42 councillors, he said the matter was being processed and the future course of action would be decided after thorough study and consultation with the Law Department.

It is recalled that 21 councillors of the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation had submitted a petition to the Secretary Local Bodies, on Feb 10, requesting him to convene a special meeting of the Council to consider the no-confidence motion against the Mayor, Syed Wasim Mazhar Nadvi.

The special meeting was fixed for Feb 23 but it was postponed at the 11th hour under the orders of the Provincial Government on the plea that the newly-elected councillor. Mr Abdul Jabbar, Siddiqui, had approached the Secretary that he should be first administered oath. Therefore, the Secretary, Local Bodies, had decided to postpone the meeting.

Immediately after the postponement of the meeting, the 42 Councillors of the opposition group had launched a campaign of resignation to express their disapproval and resentment on the postponement, and succeeded in obtaining signatures of 42 Councillors who formally submitted their joint resignation to the Municipal Commissioner today.

Suggestion

Meanwhile, in a signed statement issued, in Karachi, Kazi Abdul Majid Abid, Councillor of the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, has suggested, to the

resigning Councillors of HMC to first asked for an interview with the relevant authorities at Karachi and put before them the entire situation which compelled them to take such step of tendering resignations.

Kazi Abid said: "I have just learnt that a joint resignation has been submitted on behalf of 42 councillors of the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation to the Municipal Commissioner HMC.

"I have been throughout insisting that before taking such an action, we should exhaust all avenues of redress of the grievances which the Councillors have against the Mayor, Maulana Wasi Mazhar Nadvi. In any case, to my mind, time is still not completely lost to review the entire situation and I am getting in touch with the resigning colleagues to advise them that first, they should ask for an interview with the relevant authorities at Karachi to put before them the entire situation which has compelled the Councillors to take such step of tendering resignations of their seats.

"Personally I am confident that the authorities will give due thought to all such aspects of the situation which are in the best interest of the city for welfare of which the Governor's deep concern is already well-known to all people." APP

CSO: 4220/290

COMMUNISTS RAP MILITARY REGIME

GF111305 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 10 Mar 82

[Text] With respect to political intrigues, machinations, political pressures and torture of political prisoners in secret prisons in Pakistan by the military regime, the Pakistani Communist Party has issued a press statement. The statement says that, under the leadership of U.S. imperialism and the influence of international imperialists, reactionaries, and [word indistinct], the usurper military regime in Pakistan has converted Pakistan into a land of oppressed nationalities, [word indistinct] prisons, (?a base for) an undeclared war against the DRA, and [words indistinct] which is gravely threatening the regional and international peace and security. The U.S. military aid to the Pakistani military regime and the Saudi-provided petrodollars [words indistinct].

The statement says that the political, social and economic crises in Pakistan are so grave that it is impossible for the present Pakistani regime to overcome them.

The statement by the Pakistani Communist Party says further that the Pakistani military regime during the past 6 months has staged several [word indistinct], dramas and farces to strengthen its grip further. However, the Pakistani mind is wise and it is not possible to cheat the Pakistani people for long.

The statement further says that oppression, imprisonment, torture, lashings, hurting people and murders cannot prevent the people from struggling for democracy and social justice.

The press statement says that the fanning of religious and regional prejudice has been a favorite theme of the Pakistani military leadership. The misleading claim of having discovered a boobytrap in a copy of the Holy Koran recently clearly shows the machinations and intrigues of the reactionary Pakistani leadership. The statement adds that the Pakistani Communist Party urges all democratic forces to take an active part in the mass movement and political [word indistinct].

The statement says in conclusion that the military dictatorship of Gen Ziaul Haq is leading the Pakistani people swiftly toward the brink of destruction because denial of democratic rights, the undeclared war against the DRA, service to reactionary forces and militarism have created added dangers for the security of Pakistan.

CSO: 4203/83

JUP LEADERS MEET IN RAWALPINDI

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Mar 82 p 14

[Text]

LAHORE, Feb. 28: The Secretary-General, defunct Jamiat Ulama-i-Pakistan, Maulana Abdus Sattar Khan Nisai, has said the top leadership of his party is assembling in Rawalpindi on March 2, to participate in an 'Urs' celebration to be held at Lal Kurti.

Talking to PPI here today, he said that Maulana Shah Ahmed Noorani, President of the JUP, was reaching Rawalpindi from Karachi while he, along with Malik Mohammad Kabir Sadi, is proceeding to Rawalpindi tomorrow. Pir Syed Barkat Shah, Vice President, JUP, was already there.

He said the JUP leaders will also address conference on the Secret of Qasim Al Amm (Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jilani) being held at the Jamia Masjid, Navy Complex, Taxila, under the auspices of Anjuman Ohulamaan-

i-Mustafa. At Lal Kurti, there would be two-day Urs ceremonies of Maulana Murtaza-ul-Haqq, a former President of JUP, Rawalpindi which would be commencing from March 3 in which all the JUP leaders would pay their tribute to late JUP leader, he added.

Maulana Abdus Sattar Khan Nisai said that they will pay a courtesy call on Pir Sahib of Pagara, if he will be in Rawalpindi.

Earlier, a JUP spokesman told that political situation prevailing in the country and the matters relating to the JUP's cooperation for forming an alliance with other parties will also be discussed. In a meeting of the JUP leaders at Rawalpindi, the JUP leaders will also be meeting with the workers of JUP and the World Islamic Mission during their stay in Rawalpindi.

CSO: 4220/288

PLEA TO SET UP SOCIAL WELFARE BODIES

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Feb 82 p 5

[Text] The one-day conference on "National development through self-reliance" held recently has recommended the establishment of social welfare organisations in the rural areas jointly by the government, voluntary social welfare agencies social workers and the people.

The conference, organised by the Directorate of Social Welfare in collaboration with the National Council of Social Welfare was inaugurated at Landhi by the State Minister and Chairman National Council Mr Mahmud Ali.

The conference called for simplifying the registration procedure for social welfare organisations and establishment of cooperative societies for promoting agriculture.

The conference suggested setting up of small handicraft centres in the rural areas in order to provide job opportunities to the rural people and also to check their flight to the urban areas.

The conference also recommended that the farmers should be motivated to rescind obsolete and old agriculture techniques and adopt modern methods. It advocated abolishing the land lordship system.

The conference recommended that educational curriculum in the rural areas should be in accordance with their prevailing needs and requirements so that the people of rural areas could well understand their needs and surroundings and a spirit of self-confidence and self-reliance was developed in them.

It called for opening more rural health centres and proper training facilities for midwives.

The conference underlined the importance of the role of women in the social services. It was decided that the women would launch a campaign of simplicity for the cause of strengthening the national economy and also reforming the society.

It was unanimously decided that the women would completely boycott the foreign made goods and cosmetics, and would pay more attention on higher education and character building of girls.--APP

TURKISH DELEGATION TO PICK REFUGEES

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Feb 82 p 8

[Article by Shahid Rehman: "Turkish Delegation Due in Islamabad on March 10"]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 27--A Turkish delegation is due in Islamabad on March 10 to handpick 4,000 Afghan refugees of Turkish origin for permanent settlement in Turkey. The Turkish official delegation's visit is taking place as the consequence to an offer made by the Turkish President during his recent visit to Pakistan to give abode to over 4,000 Afghan refugees belonging to Kirghiz tribe.

The total number of refugees from this tribe of Turkish origin taking shelter in Pakistan is 100,000 according to the information available. The refugees would be shifted to Turkey along with their livestock and luggage. Maritime Bank of Turkey is arranging three ships to lift the refugees and their livestock from Karachi port.

It may be pointed out that the Kirghiz people who had originally settled in Central Russia have been uprooted many times after the revolution in the Soviet Union. They migrated to China after the revolution. In China they were settled in the strategic Vakhn corridor bordering Pakistan, China and the Soviet Union. As some people jokingly say socialism has been chasing them and the Soviet-installed revolution in Afghanistan uprooted them for the fourth time.

The International Wool Secretariate in collaboration with the Textile Industry Research and Development Centre, is organising a five-day training course on wool mark quality control and administration, at the TIRDC premises from today.

Dr Israr-ul-Haque, Ex-vice-chancellor of the Agricultural University, Faisalabad, will inaugurate the course at 10 a.m. This is the 62nd course to be held in developing countries.

About 15 trainees from the wool and carpet industry are expected to attend the course, said a TIRDC Press release yesterday.

CSO: 4220/290

CHINESE TEAM MEETS ABBASI, TALPUR

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Feb 82 p 5

[Text] The visiting 3-member Chinese delegation led by Mr Wang Bingnan, President of the Chinese Association for Friendship with the Foreign Countries, called on the Governor of Sind, Lt-Gen S.M. Abbasi, at the Governor House yesterday.

During the half an hour meeting, matters relating to mutual interest were discussed.

Gifts were also exchanged on the occasion.

Consul General of China in Karachi, also accompanied the delegation.

Earlier, the delegation held a meeting with the Sind Senior Minister, Mir Rasool Bux Khan Talpur, at his office.

At the meeting Mr Wang Bingnan said that the Chinese foreign policy was based on two simple principles of opposing hegemony in international affairs and to work for safeguarding the world peace.

Mr Wang said that China considered Pakistan a front-line state in this region. In fact the people of Pakistan and China were comrades-in-arms in their struggle to check expansionism in this region, he added.

He said that Pakistan was playing important role in the international affairs and all Chinese had a great regard for her.

Mr Wang Bingnan said that Pakistan had adopted a stand based on high moral principles in opposing external aggression in Pakistan, because of which the bond of friendship between China and Pakistan had been further strengthened.

He said that he and members of the delegation were very impressed to witness that the people of Pakistan have adopted a simple way of living.

Mr Rasool Bux Talpur, while speaking on the occasion, appreciated the foreign policy being followed by the People's Republic of China.

He said that China's policy was a great source of encouragement for the peace-loving countries of the world.

Mir Sahib said that Pakistan was determined to continue to follow its policy of non-alignment.

He hoped that Pak-China friendship will be further strengthened in future.--APP

CSO: 4220/290

POSITIVE RESULTS OF ANTI-CRIME ACTION REPORTED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] Round-the-clock hectic efforts of the local police against the movements of the anti-social elements have yielded positive results.

Notorious elements, who used to create menace in certain areas of the city in a drunken condition in late hours of the night with impunity, which sometimes used to result in brawls and clashes, have disappeared.

Most of them, who were wanted by the police, were flushed out from their hideouts and have been sent to the jail custody.

Peace and calm have returned in certain crime-infested areas where life had become "hell," particularly in the slum areas.

On Sunday also the police rounded up several anti-social elements in the city.

Three persons, Moula Bux, Haneef and a woman, Piyari, who were declared proclaimed offenders in a case of rioting and attempted murder, were rounded up by the Prcedy police.

CIA police also arrested one Sher Khan and seized one 12-bore carbine. A stolen car N. 024-549 and other stolen goods were recovered from possession of accused Ghulam Sabir while two stolen motorcycles were recovered from the possession of two other persons, Allah Dita and Shahid.

One Abdul Hameed, who was wanted in several cases of thefts, was also arrested by the police in North Nazimabad area. Stolen goods worth about Rs 30,000 were recovered from his possession after he was subjected to intense interrogations.

In another raid one Maqbool Akhtar was arrested and stolen cassettes worth about Rs 3,500 were recovered from his possession in Joharabad area.

Artillery Maidan police also rounded up a proclaimed offender, Rafique alias King, who was wanted in a riot case.

CSO: 4220/290

MORE THAN 90 ARRESTED IN SIND

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] As a result of continued massive campaign against the criminal and anti-social elements by the Martial Law Authorities in collaboration with Police a total of 93 more antisocial elements were apprehended yesterday throughout Sind according to official handout.

Those hauled up include six proclaimed offenders six addicts, 12 unlicensed weapon holders, 14 absconders, two suspects and 53 other criminals.

The round up also yielded seven pistols, seven shotguns, seven cartridges, one dagger, and four rifles of 20 bore.

The operation enabled the recovery of 32 bottles of whisky 1.3 K.G. charas, 113 litres local liquor and 15 K.G. of Bhang besides a cash of Rs 58.151 were also recovered during the raid.

Sukkur DMLA's Plea

Meanwhile, Brigadier Syed Mustafa Anwar Hussain Deputy Martial Law Administrator Sukkur yesterday made a fervent appeal to the citizens to fully cooperate with the Police Army joint operation launched against all types of criminals throughout the Sukkur Division.

Addressing members of the Majlis-i-Shoora Councillors Ulema notables and journalists at the Jinnah Municipal Hall here yesterday the DMLA said that they could cooperate with the authorities by pinpointing the names of criminals their harbourers and hideouts.

The Police and the Army Jawans who were carrying out these operations he said could not actually recognise the notorious criminals proclaimed and hardened offenders and their hideouts without the cooperation of the law-abiding citizens who wanted that their lives, property and honour should be protected.

The recent increasing incidents of dacoities robberies and thefts in the Sukkur Division was a matter of great concern and the Government was determined to completely root out those involved in such incidents. He said that the Provincial Governor had given a "green signal" in this regard and had ordered

that no one however high in status he might be should be shown any soft corner if he was found involved in anti-social activities.

FC Member

Syed Shamsuddin Shah a member of the Mamliis-i-Shoora speaking on the occasion said: "We should have the moral courage to pinpoint the criminals without hesitation.

78 held in Larkana distt [as published]

Meanwhile the police have rounded up 78 anti-social element during the last three days from different areas of the district according to a spokesman of the administration.

He also said that 20 different kinds of weapons were also recovered during the campaign. It includes two rifles of 7 m.m. eight guns, five double barrel guns, one rifle, one revolver, and three pistols.—APP/PPI

CSO: 4220/290

PEOPLE BAILING OUT RELATIVES

Karachi DAWN in English 28 Feb 82 p 14

[Text]

LAHORE, Feb 27: Local district and cantonment courts witnessed brisk activity here on Saturday as hundreds of people swarmed to get their relatives bailed out, who had been arrested earlier by the Lahore police during the past three nights, following a high-level meeting of the Martial Law authorities, Police and the Home Department officials.

The prosecution has been briefed to get all criminals remanded to police custody upto March 2 as directed by the authorities.

However, some of the people were released on bail for medical reasons or on humanitarian grounds.

The police is learnt to have directed the relatives of the released persons to keep them inside their respective residences till March 2.

AFP adds: Meanwhile, the Inspector-General, Police, Punjab, Mr Laseq Ahmed Khan, said that

the current drive of the Punjab Police against the anti-social elements was a normal operation to check their criminal activities and it had no other purpose whatsoever.

Talking to AFP here, he described as highly inflated and misleading the figures of arrests made by the police in the present campaign appearing in a section of the local Press on Saturday.

The I.G. said that in all, the Punjab Police had hauled up about 700 anti-social elements in its present crackdown. These arrested include cattle-lifters, pick-pockets, harbourers, narcotic dealers and proclaimed offenders.

The present operation, he said, had been started after vetting the lists of the criminals at the lower level and stringent measures were being adopted to apprehend them, he added.—
FPI/AFP

CSO: 4220/288

Earlier in an address of welcome Mr M.H. Rizvi Chairman of the Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan highlighted the salient features of the new technique of fuel substitution.

He said that Pakistan could now rightfully claim to be the first developing country to adopt this sophisticated technology by setting up this experimental CNG station at Karachi for operating one hundred vehicles on compressed natural gas.

He said Pakistan had such an extensive network of gas pipelines that the CNG stations could be easily located to be used by the transport sector. Attempts can also be made for use of CNG in railway engines he added. He said the HDIP proposed to establish a similar station at Islamabad.

Mr Rizvi said that the economic utilisation of CNG in a vehicle could be judged from the fact that as against the cost of 62 paisa per kilometer for a vehicle which gives 9 kilometer per litre CNG operated vehicles would cost 17 paisa per kilometer.--APP

CSO: 4220/290

MINISTER ON USE OF INDIGENOUS FUEL RESOURCES

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Feb 82 p 5

[Text] Maj-Gen (Retd) Rao Farman Ali Federal Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister said here yesterday that the present regime was fully conscious of the need for mobilizing all possible efforts for maximizing utilization of indigenous resources in the field of fuel.

He was speaking at the inauguration of Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan's compressed natural gas refueling station here yesterday.

The Minister said that vigorous efforts of the Government had started paying dividend. The country envisage the potentialities of increasing its indigenous production within the next two to three years.

He said that Pakistan was an oil bearing country and there was no reason why with continued and persistent efforts Pakistan should not be able to raise its oil output to a "considerable extent."

Rao Farman Ali said that energy conservation studies constituted an "extremely important" element of Government's policy. The Government he said had already embarked upon an organised programme in this connection. He however appealed to the commercial consumers of energy to exercise every economy in the use of energy. He pointed out that some of the western countries had been able to conserve up to 20 per cent of energy by adopting energy conservation measures in industry transport and domestic consumption. Pakistan he added could also comfortably save up to ten per cent energy.

He said that the compressed natural gas refuelling represented a "landmark in the history of Pakistan" towards introduction of a sophisticated technology for conserving foreign exchange in the field of fuels by resorting to the technique of interfuel substitution.

He hoped similar stations would be established all over the country to replace petrol and diesel. The proliferation of these stations he said would result in considerable saving of foreign exchange. He said that estimates had indicated that the consumption of natural gas to substitute petrol and high speed diesel in 250,000 vehicles would be of the order of four and a half percent of present gas consumption of the country. Pakistan would save about US dollars 200 million as a result of this substitution he added.

BRIEFS

UN REPRESENTATIVE'S APPOINTMENT WELCOMED—Pakistan has welcomed the appointment of Diego Cordovez as the personal representative of the UN secretary general to pave the way for a political solution of the Afghanistan issue. Pakistan's permanent representative at the United Nations, Niaz A. Naik, called on UN Secretary General Dr Perez de Cuellar in New York and apprised him of Pakistan's reaction in this regard and told him that Cordovez will be welcomed whenever he visits Pakistan. [Text] [BK041530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Mar 82]

KARACHI CITES INDIAN COLUMNIST—A prominent Indian columnist, Kuldeep Nayer, has said that the indefinite postponement of the foreign secretary's visit to Islamabad by the Government of India indicates that it was searching for a pretext to end negotiations on a no-war pact. He said this in the Thursday edition of the CHANDIGARH DAILY TRIBUNE while referring to India's reaction to Pakistan's reference to the Kashmir issue. He said it is stipulated in the Simla agreement that representatives of the two countries will hold negotiations to resolve the Jammu and Kashmir problem. He asked how India can now say that Pakistan should not make any reference to Kashmir while in the agreement it has agreed that this issue would be discussed without prejudicing each other's stand. [Text] [BK050432 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Mar 82]

MILITARY OFFICIAL VISITING SAUDI ARABIA—Gen Sawar Khan, [vice] chief of Army Staff, left Karachi this morning for a 10-day visit to Saudi Arabia. [Text] [BK051524 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Mar 82]

IRANIAN DELEGATION SOON—Iranian Charge d'Affaires (Abbas Zamani Abu Sharif) told newsmen in Islamabad today that a high-level Iranian delegation led by Foreign Minister Akbar Velayati will soon pay a state visit to Pakistan. Velayati will hold talks in the further consolidation of relations between Iran and Pakistan with the Pakistani foreign minister. The Iranian charge d'affaires said that his country intends to develop relations with all the Islamic countries, especially those countries striving for the implementation of an Islamic system. He said that the Iranian Government has invited the Pakistani commerce minister to visit Iran as soon as possible and the date of this visit will soon be decided. [Text] [BK091556 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Mar 82]

SWEDISH GROUP VISITS REFUGEES--The members of a Swedish Organization for International Development visited the Afghan refugee tented village at (Lakh Tathigarhi) near Peshawar this afternoon. Talking to the refugees, the leader of the delegation, (Olof Rande), said: The Swedish people have deep sympathy for you and the purpose of our visit is to gather further information about your problems and needs. He assured them that Sweden will continue to provide assistance to them until they can return to their homeland with dignity and honor. [Text] [BK101700 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Mar 82]

ACCORD WITH DENMARK--Pakistan and Denmark have signed at Copenhagen a convention of social security. An administrative agreement relating to the application of the convention has also been signed between the two countries. As a result of the convention, the first of its nature which Pakistan has concluded with any country, thousands of Pakistanis living in Denmark will now become entitled to the same old age pension benefits and other welfare facilities that are enjoyed by the Danish. [BK080613 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Mar 82]

COPPER DEPOSITS IN BALUCHISTAN--The copper deposits discovered at (Sardar) in the Chagai District of Baluchistan have been officially estimated to be 412 million tons. The government has started an integrated (Sardar) project for mining copper and other minerals in the Chagai District. Four hundred million rupees will be spent on the (Sardar) project. [BK080613 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Feb 82]

CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION--It was officially announced in Quetta on 27 February that last year's crude oil production totaled 400,000 barrels. Out of this, 100,000 barrels of oil came from (Aggi) oil field. During the same period, Sui gas field produced 300,000 million cubic feet of natural gas. In all, 35 oil wells were drilled in various parts of the country last year. [BK080613 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Feb 82]

AVENGER OF BHUTTO'S DEATH--New Delhi, 5 Mar (AFP)--The underground Pakistan "Al Zulfiqar" Organization has renewed its pledge to avenge the execution of Pakistani Prime Minister Eulfiqar Ali Bhutto. It is essential for restoration of democracy in Pakistan, the militant body, led by Mr Dhutto's eldest son, Mir Murtaza, said in a letter addressed to [passage indistinct]. The letter was primarily meant to refute Pakistani press reports that the Al Zulfiqar movement had used the Holy Koran as a booby trap in an attempt on the life of President Mohammed Ziaul Haq. The report was "malicious lies" and conducted by the Pakistani Government to discredit the Al Zulfiqar, it said. [Text] [BK051536 Hong Kong AFP in English 1529 GMT 5 Mar 82]

STUDENTS ARRESTED IN KARACHI--In Pakistan, yesterday police arrested 29 students who had occupied the administrative block of the Karachi University. The students were demanding the release of their colleagues arrested a few months ago during union election. The provincial authorities have announced that 230 more persons were arrested on Wednesday night [10 March] during a crackdown on alleged antisocial elements. Official figures put the number of arrests in Pakistan at more than 3,000 since the crackdown began a fortnight

ago. Meanwhile, the movement for restoration of democracy has demanded the immediate release of detained persons. [Text] [BK120333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Mar 82]

INDIAN OCEAN SITUATION--At the United Nations, Pakistan has described as disheartening and regrettable the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean region because of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. Speaking in the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, Pakistan delegate Riaz Mohammad Khan said the continued presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and the existing crisis in that country have jeopardized the security of neighboring states and carried grave implications far beyond the region. The committee is discussing issues relating to convening a conference of the Indian Ocean countries in Colombo next year. That conference is aimed at implementing a 1971 declaration of the General Assembly calling for a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. The Western countries, led by the United States, are opposing the holding of the Colombo conference on the grounds that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, a hinterland state of the Indian Ocean, has marred the security climate in the region. The Pakistan delegate said they [as heard] did not regard the Colombo conference as the culmination of the initiative for the establishment of a peace zone. On the contrary, the conference will be a necessary step toward the realization of that objective. [Text] [BK101112 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 10 Mar 82]

RESIGNATION OF FINANCE MINISTER DENIED--A government spokesman today categorically contradicted a news item published in a section of the press that Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan has tendered his resignation. The spokesman described the item as baseless and mischievous which seems to have been circulated to engender instability and uncertainty in the country. [Text] [BK111035 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 11 Mar 82]

BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIAN VISITS REFUGEES--The member of British Parliament, (Ronald Moel), now in Pakistan, visited an Afghan refugee tented village at Nasirbagh near Peshawar this morning. Talking to the refugees he said that Pakistan should not be left alone to look after the Afghan refugees. He said Britain had already provided humanitarian assistance in this regard and he would assess how much more the British people could contribute for their relief. (Moel) also described the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as a crime against international law and the law of humanity. Earlier, an elder of Afghan refugees explained the circumstances which forced them to leave their homes in Afghanistan and seek shelter in Pakistan. [Text] [BK091031 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Mar 82]

NAVAL CHIEF'S TENURE--In Rawalpindi, an official announcement says the government has extended the tenure of Chief of the Naval Staff Adm Karamat Rahman Niazi for a period of 1 year with effect from the 24th of this month. [Text] [BK081724 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Mar 82]

POLICE USE TEARGAS--The provincial government in Peshawar issued a press-note today which stated that despite a government warning that according to law political meetings are not permitted, about 200 persons gathered at (Chowk Yadgar) of Peshawar town. The police had to use teargas shells to disperse them. According to the pressnote, seven persons were arrested at that site. However, no other untoward incident has occurred. [Text] [BK141535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Mar 82]

DEFENSE TEAM IN WASHINGTON--A high-powered Pakistan defense team is reported to be in Washington now to speed up delivery of F-16 aircraft and other armaments. PTI, quoting defense experts, says that Pakistan is also trying to acquire nuclear weapons violating conditions of the American defense aid. [Text] [BK131610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Mar 82]

TWO HELD FOR TERRORISM--Multan, Feb 25--The police here have arrested two more alleged terrorists and seized some objectionable pamphlets and a cyclo-styled machine from them. The terrorists, identified as Mohd Jamal (a student of the Bahawalpur Medical College) and Ghulam Ali (a student of Multan School). Both of them are stated to be members of a well-known terrorist organisation. It is stated that both of the terrorists were busy distributing objectionable pamphlets in cinemas, hotels, offices, post offices and other public places for the last several days. The police is meanwhile conducting more raids in search of more members of the terrorist gang in Multan area. It may be recalled that three persons, including Mian Ehsan Bari, Chairman of the Inqilabi Council, Pakistan, have been arrested in connection with alleged terrorist activities in Multan area. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Feb 82 p 1]

SABOTEURS INTERROGATION BEGINS--Peshawar, Feb 25--Interrogation of alleged saboteurs, apprehended recently on the charge of desecration of the Holy Quran, has started. Meanwhile, rumours and speculations about their identification, affiliation etc are rife. An official spokesman when contacted denied that any of the two persons arrested in this case was government servant.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Feb 82 p 1]

MAGAZINE FORFEITED--Peshawar, Feb 25--The Government of NWFP has with immediate effect forfeited all copies of the magazine captioned "PUJJAR" (Vol VI) issue No 4 of November-December 1981, issued by Baluch Students' Organisation (Awami) containing material which tend directly to bring into hatred contempt, the Martial law regime in the country and prejudice the maintenance of friendly relations between the Government of Pakistan and the capitalist countries specially America and also prejudicial to the national integration. PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Feb 82 p 6]

PERIODICALS, PAMPHLETS FORFEITED--The Home Department of the Provincial Government have forfeited copies of a number of periodicals and pamphlets containing malicious and contemptuous propaganda against the Government and also fanning hatred between various sects, under the West Pakistan Press and Publications Ordinance. They included (1) weekly INQILAB Volume II, No 7 (Jan 9-15), published from 33, Leysourne House, Shoreditch High Street, London; (2) monthly Urdu magazine AL-SHAHEED (Issue No 7) published from Tehran; (3) Urdu monthly digest ROOHANI DIGEST (Nov 81 issue); (4) Urdu weekly JEHDO JEHAD (Jan 2 issue) published from Holland; (5) Urdu pamphlet FITA-I-KARBALA published by Riaz Ali Shah of Jhang; (6) weekly ECONOMIST (Dec 12, 1981 issue) published from London; (7) Sindhi pamphlet "Jang, Jan Jang Aahey Mohnji Tusan

Jang Aahey"; (8) Urdu pamphlet "Hairat Haiy Hairat Haiy"; (9) cyclostyled speech and poem of Mr Nasrullah Khan Nasir, President of the defunct Pakistan Democratic Party; (10) a booklet containing resolutions passed during a Seerat meeting held at Khaliqdina Hall recently and published by the Pakistan Sunni Council; and (11) monthly Gujrati magazine AKHAND ANAND, published from Ahmadabad (India). According to an official information, some of the forfeited material also tended to prejudice Pakistan's relations with a number of foreign countries.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Feb 82 p 6]

PAKISTANI HOUSES FOR KUWAIT--Islamabad, Feb 25--Pakistan's Federal Interior Minister, Mr Mahmoud A. Haroon who is currently on a visit to Kuwait, handed over to the Kuwait's Minister for Housing, Mr Hamad Issa Al-Rujaib, 300 houses completed in the first phase of the Sabah Al-Salam Housing Project by the National Construction Company of Pakistan. According to a message received here today at a simple ceremony held at the site to mark the handing over of the completed phase, the Pakistani Minister assured the Kuwait Government that the rest of the housing project will be completed soon. The Kuwaiti Minister expressed appreciation of the quality and standard of the houses and assured his government's complete cooperation to help accomplish the task. The handing over ceremony was attended by the Pakistani Ambassador, Mr Mahdi Masud, Maj-Gen Mohammad Sadaat Ali, Chairman Overseas Construction, Pakistan, officials of Kuwait Housing Ministry and Housing Authority and NCC. APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Feb 82 p 7]

JUP CANCELS MEMBERSHIP--Lahore, Feb 25--A spokesman of the defunct Jamiatul Ulema-i-Pakistan has clarified that those who have joined the Majlis-i-Shoora or the Cabinet have ceased to be members of the Jamiat and hence they are warned not to use its name for their introduction. In a Press statement here on Wednesday it was further clarified that this decision had been taken in the general council meeting of the Jamiat on July 1 last year. Later, a 14-member Central Committee of the Jamiat and the defunct Muslim League had decided on June 18 at its meeting held at Islamabad. [Excerpt] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Feb 82 p 24]

LEADER'S STATEMENT ON POWER TRANSFER--Lahore, Feb 25--A member of the National Working Committee of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal, Mian Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri, said here today that the only way out of the present difficulties being faced by the country, both internally and externally, was transfer of power to elected representatives of the people. In a statement issued to the Press, he criticised the statement of the Interior Minister, Mr Mahmoud Haroon, and said that to link the issue of holding of general elections with the presence of Russian troops in Afghanistan was tantamount to suggesting an indefinite postponement of polls. Even the most optimistic and informed analysts of the Afghan situation did not foresee withdrawal of Russian troops from Afghanistan in the foreseeable future, and as such the statement of the Interior Minister was yet another excuse of the series to postpone elections, which had been repeatedly promised by the Government since July 1977. Regarding an allegation that political parties had failed to produce a consensus to evolve a method to meet the present political situation and to pave the way for the transfer of power, the Tehrik leader said that, on the one hand, there were restrictions on the inter-provincial and inter-district movement of politicians and, on the other, some of them had been under arrest for a long time.

Release of the politicians and lifting of the ban on their meetings and movement within the country would effectively contribute towards reaching a political consensus. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Feb 82 p 24]

FOUR ALLEGED TERRORISTS--Multan, Feb 26--Two more alleged terrorists, identified as Muntaz Ali and Iqbal Hussain, were arrested here yesterday. The number of alleged terrorists arrested in Multan so far is now seven. Muntaz is a resident of Multan Civil Hospital area and Iqbal a resident of Gujjar Khadda, near Cantonment railway station. Objectionable cyclostyled pamphlets were recovered from them. They reportedly wanted to distribute these pamphlets among the people in different localities of Multan. They had reportedly distributed more than 600 such pamphlets during the last two days. It is stated that they confessed they had been paid for distributing the pamphlets. Two other alleged terrorists, Muhammad Janai and Ghulam Ali, were arrested early on Wednesday last. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 27 Feb 82 p 1]

214 ARRESTED IN RAFAHAI--Two hundred and fourteen anti-social elements were arrested on Thursday night as a result of a joint Martial Law-Police operations throughout the province of Sindh, says a statement. The drive will continue to nab more offenders, goondas, thieves, gamblers and narcotic peddlers. In Thursday night's operations, 41 proclaimed offenders, 10 gamblers and satta den operators, eight narcotic addicts and peddlers, two goondas, three thieves and 110 other criminals were caught. During these operations, 1 shotgun, 11 daggers, 41 tablets of opium, 2 kilograms of charas, 32 tablets of mandrax and 3 gallons of country-made liquor were also seized. Stolen property, which included two radio sets, four motorcycles, two cars, and miscellaneous items worth Rs 4.46 lakh and Rs 3533 in cash, were also recovered during the raids. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 27 Feb 82 p 1]

SIGNING OF 1973 CONSTITUTION--Sahiwal, Feb 26--A leader of the Jamat-ul-Muslmain, Pakistan, and an ex-member of the West Pakistan Assembly, Pir Ali Gohar Chishti, has said that a number of opposition members in the defunct National Assembly affixed their signatures on the 1973 Constitution, "under blackmail threat of the then Federal Security Force." In a statement on Tuesday he said the FSF had made films "about private lives of the Opposition members in order to coerce and blackmail them." PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 27 Feb 82 p 1]

SACRILEGE PROTESTED--Multan, Feb 26--Various religious social traders industrialists and other organisations and unions in Multan have demanded punishment according to the Shariat against the criminals who have resorted to the sacrilege of using the Holy Quran for achieving their sinister ends. Condemnation of the desecration of the Holy Book continues throughout the Division Multan. In the Cantonment and the city areas of Multan shopkeepers observed a token hartal today. According to reports reaching here today shops and business centres in Gujrat, Karamsad Qureshi and Ghazi Ghat in Muzaffargarh District also remained closed today. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 27 Feb 82 p 3]

BULGARIAN AID IN BALUCHISTAN--The Bulgarian Ambassador in Pakistan, Mr Asen Yankov, said here on Sunday that a modern corn processing complex four big cold storages and a leather tannery had been set up in the NWFP with four million dollars Bulgarian Assistance to Pakistan. After a meeting with the Pakistan-Bulgaria Trade and Industry Committee of the FPCCI, he told newsmen that negotiations were under way for bigger projects as joint venture in the private sector. The projects under discussion are agro-industries electronic engineering, house-building, etc. Mr Asen Yankov said his country was ready to provide technology and collaborate in the establishment of industries in the Export Processing Zone here. Earlier the Chairman of the Committee, Mr Abdul Matin, pointed out that Bulgaria imported mainly cotton yarn, cotton textiles and cotton made-ups and a small quantity of raw cotton from Pakistan. He said Bulgaria should increase the off-take of light engineering goods and ready-made garments, carpets, woollen and acrylic yarn, handicraft, surgical instruments, marble, onyx, etc.--APP. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Mar 82 p 14]

MRD SEEKS REACTION--The MRD's Convener Mr Zainul Abedin said on Sunday that the MRD had decided to have the "people's reaction" in its own way on the questionnaire circulated by the Council of Islamic Ideology for eliciting public opinion. The said questionnaire, he said, has been forwarded to the various representative bodies--social, economic, labour, students etc. The replies, when received, will be compiled for the MRD to formulate "its line of action," he said. Mr Zainul Abedin, who is the Acting chief of the defunct PDP, said the Federal Commerce Minister owed an explanation as to why cement was imported in such a large quantity as to cause a glut and, thereby, made the indigenous industry idle? He asked that since the world oil prices had come down why should not the Government pass on the advantage to the consumer? The MRD's Convener for the month of March will be Mr Fatahyab Ali, chief of the defunct Kisan Mazdoor Party. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Mar 82 p 14]

HYDERABAD COUNCILORS DISQUALIFIED--Hyderabad Feb 27--Hyderabad Mayor Syed Wasi Mazhar Nadvi today confirmed that the some councillors had been disqualified and a decision would be announced soon in this regard. In a statement issued here today he said that inquiries were conducted against some councillors of the Hyderabad Corporation and they were found guilty of the charges levelled against them. Syed Wasi Mazhar Nadvi said that now the councillors have ultimately been freed from the wrongful confinement by their what he called "captors" and they could exercise their right to vote in the forthcoming meeting. He claimed he still enjoyed the support of the majority of the councillors and his opponents would not succeed in their no confidence move against him. He said that he was convinced that had there been voting in the special meeting he would not only have survived the no-confidence move but would have exposed many faces who were wearing various guises to blackmail the Government. APP [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Feb 82 p 8]

RESIGNATION REPORT DENIED--The Federal Communications Minister Mr Mohjeyuddin Baluch yesterday firmly denied reports published in a section of the Press about his alleged resignation. In a denial issued here the Minister expressed his regret that such unfounded and mischievous reports have been published in

two prestigious and influential newspapers. It was not expected that these papers would indulge in such irresponsible and unhealthy activities. The Minister expressed the hope that in future all such reports should be confirmed directly from him before being published.--APP [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 p 5]

PAKISTAN-SUDAN TRADE--Pakistan-Sudan Trade Committee of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce at its meeting held here on Sunday urged the government to conclude fresh trade protocol between Pakistan and Sudan. The Chairman of the Committee Mr Qamruzzaman, said that during his recent visit to Sudan the need for fresh protocol was highlighted. Mr Zaman informed the meeting that there existed great scope for enlarging the volume of trade between the two countries. APP [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 p 5]

CRIME REPORT REVISION--Islamabad, Feb 27--The annual crime report of the police which was printed by the Interior Ministry recently is being revised as it includes some bogus statistics, sources close to the Interior Ministry said on Saturday. The details of the report were said to be based on information supplied by various police heads from all over the country to help the concerned high-ups to maintain a record and draw up future plan about the law and order situation in the country. The report, when examined, reportedly revealed numerous false information about the crime rate in the country. The minister concerned has assigned the task of revision of the police report to the "Bureau of Police Research and Development" (BPRD). The BPRD has specially been asked to locate the sources responsible for providing false information. The Ministry concerned is also taking note of a similar report submitted by the NWFP police in the past. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Feb 82 p 1]

MORE SIND ARRESTS--Sixty-five more criminals were arrested on Saturday-Sunday night as a result of clean-up operations jointly launched by the Martial Law and Police authorities throughout the Sind province, says an official handout. Those hauled up included 30 proclaimed offenders, absconders, 20 satta den operators, eight thieves, four unlicensed weapon holders, one narcotic peddler, one kidnapper, and one other criminal. The operations also yielded four pistols, one shotgun, three daggers, one car, one VCR set, besides cash and jewelry worth Rs 2,426. The campaign against the criminals which continues all over the province since the morning of Feb 25, has so far resulted in the arrest of 906 criminals of various categories. Besides, four dacoit hideouts were busted in Jacobabad, Larkana and Shikarpur districts on Feb 26, which led to the arrest of three notorious dacoits alongwith their 165 accomplices. The drive, which aims at crushing all types of criminals, continues in the three divisions of the province as a joint Army-Police operation. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Mar 82 p 1]

NEW ROAD SIGNS--Islamabad, Feb 28--The country is likely to have new and the latest road signs, which will be more visible and informative for the road users, Mr M.Y. Orakzai, Inspector General Highway Safety, told APP here today. He said that the first step in this direction has been taken and the Islamabad highway, from zero point up to the airport curve will be provided with these signs from tomorrow. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Mar 82 p 14]

DESECRATION OF QURAN PROTESTED--Quetta March 1--The main markets of the town completely ceased their business today to protest against the unholy attempt of using booby-trap in the Holy Quran by the subversive elements. The business concerns remained closed at Jinnah Road, Liaquat Road, Mission and Prince Roads. The business community called for exemplary punishment to those who dared desecrate the Holy Quran. The businessmen of different markets at their separate meetings passed unanimous resolutions condemning the heinous act of defying the Quranic sanctity. The resolutions however commended the timely arrest of the culprits and described it a living miracle of the truthfulness of the Quranic message.' The business community assured the Government of fullest cooperation in nabbing the terrorists as well as their elimination. According to reports reaching here the protest meetings at Dharar district headquarter of Kulachi were also held to protest the cruelest act of defying the sanctity of the Holy Quran. Meanwhile Miss Razia Chaudhri a woman councillor of the Quetta District Council in a Press statement urged the Government to hold immediate trial of the culprits. She added that the Government should not hesitate even to frame special laws if needed to punish the culprits. APP [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 p 1] ?

'BIGGER THAN MANY CITIES'--If one assumes Orangi Township as a city, then it would outnumber several major cities of Pakistan populationwise, and would be listed as number seven among the big cities of the country. This remark was passed by Sind Governor Lt-Gen S.M. Abbasi in a jovial mood, while addressing a big public meeting held yesterday at Orangi Township to award lease documents to the inhabitants of the township. He said: "The population of the Orangi Township is about 8 lakh, while the population of Multan is 7 3, Peshawar 5.3 lakh, and Gujranwala has a population of 6 lakhs. The total area of Orangi Township is over 4,900 acres. [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 p 8]

ACTING CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER--Rawalpindi March 1--The Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr Justice Mohammad Haleem administered the oath of office to Mr Justice, S.A. Nusrat as Acting Chief Election Commissioner, at a simple but impressive ceremony here today. The Chief Justice also administered the oath to Mr Justice M.S.H. Qureshi as an Acting Judge of the Supreme Court.--APP [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 2 Mar 82 p 8]

CSO: 4220/290

EDITORIAL VIEWS PRASONG'S APPROACH TO PROBLEMS

BK080233 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 8 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Diplomacy Must Keep Looking at Silver Lining"]

[Text] There are several ways to approach a nation's problems either regionally or internationally--idealistically, moralistically, realistically, and, most important of all, from the point of view of self-interest. We believe that almost all nations start from the point of view of self-interest and then couch it in terms of either idealism or morals. But from our reasoning it would appear correct if problems are viewed nationalistically--which, of course, is self-interest--and then solved in terms of realism.

All this may sound like quibbling with high-sounding words and we will plead guilty to such a charge. But specifically we are talking about National Security Council Secretary General Prasong Sunsir and his approach to the problems of Southeast Asia. While there is much that we may not agree with Sgd Lrd Prasong, there is no reason that his basic approach should be faulted in any way. It may be argued, and argued correctly, that regional problems are the responsibility of the Foreign Ministry, but let us not forget that such problems that affect national security do come within the sphere that Prasong controls.

What Thailand has done about the Kampuchean problem--let us not beat about the bush but say outright the worries are over the formation of the Greater Indochina Federation which will act as the surrogate of the Soviet Union in this part of the world--is to coordinate her policies with fellow-members of ASEAN and work through the United Nations and through international opinion to break up this possible scenario. The attempt has not failed--actually ASEAN's efforts have been a brilliant success. But viewed differently, it has been a failure since Hanoi has thumbed its nose at the UN and at world opinion.

And if we read Prasong correctly when he says that we should not "change horses in midstream," what he means is that ASEAN should say: "The prosecution rests." Neither Thailand nor ASEAN is the judge and jury but if the judge and jury--world opinion--are ineffective or are unable to enforce the verdict, Prasong seems to say that there is nothing more to be done. Singapore played a highly visible part in trying to get the Khmer opposition to

Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea organized into a viable political and military unit--but came up with only half-successes. What arcane game Beijing has been, and is, playing is extremely difficult to interpret.

Again, if we may interpret Prasong with a clique: "The ball is not in ASEAN's court." We agree there is not much that Thailand, or for that matter ASEAN, can do now. The Chinese leaders are trying to find some sort of a solution to the in-fighting between the anti-Vietnamese Khmer factions and ASEAN will have to do some re-thinking if some sort of a solution emerges. But in terms of coming up with new formulae--unless something unforeseen happens--ASEAN has exhausted its options.

Prasong did not mince words when he said that the U.S. has reduced its role in Southeast Asia and that the Soviet Union is now playing the major part. These are realities that nobody can sneeze at. While this may be the realistic way of looking at our regional problems, the Foreign Ministry cannot let up on its diplomatic efforts because the essence of diplomacy is always to find some sort of an accommodation. The silver lining is of course that China has been able to keep the Khmer Rouge fighting for over 3 years and the vaunted Vietnamese war machine is showing cracks. Let us keep our fingers crossed and hope that ASEAN diplomacy, now in the doldrums, will ultimately find a political solution.

CSO: 4220/308

PRASONG INSISTS ON PRESENTING POLICY VIEWS

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Mar 82 p 2

[Text]

SECRETARY GENERAL of the National Security Council, Squadron Leader Prasong Soonsiri, last night insisted on his rights to make comments on foreign policy matters "when they concern national security."

Prasong was commenting on remarks made in an unofficial and unsigned commentary sent with the foreign ministry's regular package of Press releases last Friday implying criticism of Prasong's remarks in an address last week at the army auditorium suggesting that Thailand may have to adopt a "hands-off" policy over the Kampuchean issue if efforts to seek a solution did not work.

Prasong said: "I am responsible in my position as secretary general of the National Security Council for opinion and actions over national security,

including foreign policy which affects our security. If I sense danger signs which may affect the country's security, I would have to be concerned."

The secretary general added: "Perhaps, the person at the Foreign Ministry who made the remarks against me should read the National Security Act and go through a course at the National Defence College to understand my role."

Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, Mr Jetn Sucharitkul, said in a weekly Press conference last week that only three persons in the government were "competent officers" to comment on the country's foreign policy: the

prime minister, the deputy premiers and foreign minister. Contacted last night, Mr Jetn, Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Information

Department, said his department had not issued the statement critical of Prasong.

He said his department would issue a clarification on the matter. *The Nation* did not receive a copy of the clarification as of last night.

Prasong said Jetn talked to him on the phone yesterday, denying any knowledge of the note supposedly released by the Foreign Ministry's Information Dept.

Jetn said that the Information Department "had nothing to do with" the anonymous note which was sent to newspaper offices with press releases of the ministry last week.

Jetn said he told reporters last Friday that anyone could comment on the policy of the Foreign Ministry, but only two persons, the premier and the foreign minister, who reflect its policy.

CSO: 4220/312

SAP, DEMOCRATS SEEN IN LEADERSHIP CRISIS

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 20 Feb 82 pp 9, 10

[Text]

IN ONE CASE, the "heir apparent" has laid down his demands for a return to the fold. In the other case, the current leader has declared he is out of the race and a heated contest is expected.

In both instances, Thailand's two best-known political parties are feeling the pinch of the crucial problem of a leadership crisis.

The Democrat Party is the oldest. The Social Action Party is the biggest. Dissension has hit both parties at varying degrees. But the common denominator is: Who is leading the way?

The Democrat Party has set up a 12-member working group led by Deputy Leader Kraiborn Tan-tipong to work out procedures to pick a new leader on April 3. Likewise, SAP has just set up a 10-man team to thrash out the procedures by which the party's overall system is to be overhauled when the general assembly is held in the middle of next month.

The outcomes of the two parties' general assemblies will be far-reaching for the political party system in the country. Whether Thai politicians have matured enough to overcome the personality clashes will come under a severe test this time.

The Democrat Party, 37 years old since its inception, has suffered a severe blow since the last general elections in 1976 when it won only 30 seats, from a peak of 114 House seats in the 1976 elections. When M.R. Seni Pramoi stepped down in 1979 following the major blow, the party became rudderless. The country's strongest opposition political grouping was looking for a leader who could command the trust of the people.

Thanat Khoman won the top party post at a difficult time. If he tried his best to patch up the differences in the

party, which had been split into factions, he did not succeed too well. Factionalism and internal bickering continued, if behind the scenes. The decision to join the Prem coalition and the change of mind from opposition to Prem's extension of his army tenure in 1980 placed the party in a weaker position.

"I don't think the Democrat Party's position could be worse," deputy party leader Chuan Leekpai said last week. But he remained uncommittal as to whether he would run for the top party post on April 3.

The only apparent candidate who has

made public his intention to run for the top post is former deputy leader Bhichai Rattakul who said he had met most of the factions in the party and had received "positive" reactions for his candidacy.

"I can work with all groupings in the party, except the present leader," Bhichai said, recalling the old-time personal enmity between him and Thanat, who engaged Bhichai in a prolonged verbal exchange when he was foreign minister under the Thanom regime.

Thanat himself has taken a cynical view of the whole issue. He says he is ready to step down and has no intention of continuing his leadership of the Democrat Party which had been a strain for him in the past two years.

Bhichai told *The Nation* in an exclusive interview earlier this week that his first major task, if he was elected party chief, would be to revive unity within the party.

"We need a core to get party unity back on its feet. In the recent past, that's what we have been lacking," he said.

The second major plank in his platform is to improve the party's organization. "We must rekindle the spark," he announced.

Bhichai, who may face competition from veteran politician Sawet Piampongson in the race, says that he also wants the party to have a clear-cut economic policy.

"We can't just talk vaguely about mild socialism or being flexible in our policy. I

personally believe in a free enterprise for the economy and liberalization in certain aspects," Bhichai adds.

The most clear-cut platform in his contest for the party's top post is that he won't hold any Cabinet portfolio if he was elected party leader. "But the Democrat Party will continue to support the Prem government under my leadership. Khun Thanat could continue to be deputy premier until the end of the term after which he may be offered the post of deputy chairman of the party's advisory board which should be headed by former party leader M.R. Seni Pra-moj," Bhichai, 55, former foreign minister, explains.

The most difficult task for anyone trying to grab the top post in the Democrat Party is to ram the party through the general elections next year with a major boost. And that's what Bhichai believes he could do if support was forthcoming from all party members concerned.

"I don't think we should field candidates to vie for all available seats (317) throughout the country. We should just field well-qualified candidates and we would just field 160 to meet the legal requirements (half the total number of available House seats)," he says.

Financial support is unavoidably a major factor — and this is where Chuan, despite his popularity as an honest and straightforward politician

fears to tread. Bhichai says that the party would need about 30 to 40 million baht to field about 160 candidates in the upcoming elections. "Frankly, I think it is very difficult for the Democrat Party to win 114 seats as we once did. But we have to do our best to regain many of the seats we lost," he adds.

Being an active businessman with good connections, Bhichai believes he could garner sufficient financial support for the task. He will be trying to lobby for support from all major factions in the party to get the top post. Asked who he would nominate as deputy party leaders if he were to be picked party leader, Bhichai listed the following: Kraisorn Tantipong, Chalermbhand Srivikorn, Chuan Leekpai, Khunthong Pupiewduan and Lek Nana.

"These will represent all regions in the country and also a representative of the Muslim faith," Bhichai adds.

The race will be an interesting contest. For one thing, many names have been mentioned but nobody else has publicly declared themselves in the race, except for Bhichai. Chuan has not said "No" although sources close to him said that the southern Democrat MPs, numbering about half of the total in the party, had decided to cast "free votes" in this instance.

Judging from this trend, it is safe to assume that Chuan has let it be known privately that he might not run after all.

"Chuan wants to play it safe. He will wait until the last minute to see how the wind blows," said a senior party member who belongs to a different faction.

Speculation that well-known business tycoon Surat Osathanukroh may be a surprise candidate on April 3 has not been totally ruled out although informed sources within the party have strongly discounted that possibility.

Party secretary general Marut Bunnag has also been cited as a possible candidate. "But he is not quite ready just yet to assume the top post," said another informed source.

A veteran of the party believes that the choices will gradually narrow down to two — or even one as the party's general assembly draws near. "It has been a tradition with the Democrat Party not to have a big fight over party leadership. When that day comes, I believe we would only have one candidate and the voting would be unanimous," the source says.

If the problems in the Democrat Party appear complicated, the uproar within the Social Action Party is even more complex.

The question is not the party leader — but whether the deputy party leader, Boonchu Rojanastien, would return to the party, bringing back with him several party members who had quit in protest against the other faction.

Boonchu quit the party's top post in December when SAP decided to join the Prem coalition despite his protest. Now, he wants a total shakeup of the party and the ouster of Kasem Srisumpundh, secretary general of the party and a long-time personal aide to party leader M.R. Kukrit Pramoj, from the party's senior post.

"Boonchu wants it clear that if he comes back, there wouldn't be repetition of the problems that occurred before. Boonchu simply can't forget the day when he was told not to attend a party meeting which decided to join the Prem coalition," said a source close to him.

Political observers agree that Kukrit and Boonchu are "too close to each other to cut loose the political ties." But Kukrit, Boonchu and Kasem are three different characters who can compromise only to a certain point.

"Officially, the party leader has said there would be no problems with revamping the party's machinery. He asked for two months to do that. Boonchu, however, was far from clear just what he wants. Of course, he can't make it so specific as to say that he wants Kasem or this and that guys out of the party. So, he has so far only made general remarks about the party having to shake itself up to inject more discipline in..." said another informed source.

Boonchu is being urged by the eight SAP MPs who resigned en masse last month to show their backing for the former deputy leader to form a new party. "But deep in his heart, Boonchu wants to go back to the party — if his conditions were met," said a close aide.

While Kukrit may concede to Boonchu's demand that Kasem be ousted from the party's secretary generalship, he has let it be known that the way of carrying it out would have to be done graciously. Kasem simply cannot be seen "kicked out..."

Kasem himself has told senior party members that he was willing to quit that party post. "In fact, Kasem told me earlier that he wanted to quit as the party's secretary general after the defeat at the Ro-jet by-election to show his sense of responsibility. But the party leader stopped him short. But then, if he is seen to be ousted by Boonchu, that's another problem. He may not like it all that much," said a member of the party's central committee.

Boonchu himself has decided that he would run in the next general elections, whether he returns to the party or not. That has sparked off speculations that if he can't have SAP, Boonchu would have to set up his own party. But for now, he would wait for the outcome of the party's general assembly, moved from the earlier scheduled

date in May to March due to the widespread disension within the party.

Not everybody is on Boonchu's side, of course. During a party meeting on Wednesday to discuss the date of the party's general assembly, discussions were described as "somewhat heated," with both sides exchanging some very vehement arguments for and against a move which may be interpreted as being a concession to Boonchu and the group of SAP MPs who had resigned en masse.

Officially, SAP now has about 62 MPs left, from the peak of 80 several months ago. Its strength has dwindled following the split within the party over the decision to join the new Prem coalition government. And the Wednesday's party meeting (attended by 47 SAP MPs) and members of the central committee with the absence of the party leader who was in Chiang Mai, reflected the extent of the split.

"We nearly had to vote on the issue. But fortunately, we could agree amicably to set up a 10-member working group to work out the agenda and exact date of the meeting which should be between March 15 to 20," said an informed source present in the meeting.

It was argued during the meeting that the changing of the date of the party's assembly was not to meet Boonchu's demand. In fact, the party's MPs had been calling for an early parley to clear up all doubts so that they could tell their voters in constituencies throughout the country what was happening to the party.

"It is also important that we start as soon as possible the process of approaching possible candidates for the general elections next year before the best available ones are snatched away by other parties," said a member of the party's central committee.

He admitted that the next general elections would be a tough test for SAP, particularly in the South and Northeast. "And we have to work out a new strategy. We simply can't live off the old tambon fund to get votes anymore. That may still be a gimmick but the main thrust would have to be something else, including better prices for agricultural products and rural development..."

Boonchu, the supposed "heir apparent" of SAP's top post remains an upset man. When several top SAP executives, including Kosol and Prasit, met him on Thursday to ask him the direct questions of just what he wanted done to pave the way for his return to the fold, Boonchu would only say: "You know what's what..."

Many SAP executives confess to being bewildered. But Boonchu's aides appeared to be very clear as to what the boss wants.

ANTI-CPT STRATEGY DESCRIBED

BK1010125 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 10 Mar 82

["News in Perspective" feature]

[Text] The Thai Army has used a new strategy to crack down on the communists on Banthat Range straddling two northeastern provinces and an eastern province bordering Kampuchea. The communist strongholds on Banthat Range are protected by the dense jungle of the northeastern provinces of Nakhon Ratchasima and Buriram, and the eastern province of Prachin Buri.

Chief of Staff of the 1st Army Region Maj Gen Wanchai Roengtrakun revealed that he would use a new strategy by making a bombing attack on the suspected communist stronghold before sending in ground troops to flush out the communists. He said that combined forces from the 2d and 1st army regions have been used for the first time to fight communists together. The joint operation is called Ruam Chai Operation.

The chief of staff of the 1st army region said that a heavy encounter between the government forces and the communists took place last week when eight government troops were killed and 23 others wounded. No casualties on the part of the communists have been revealed. He said the campaign against the communists in the area has been carried out since 1974, but the operation had been limited in scale.

With the new air-cover strategy, the 2d and 1st army regions have joined hands in launching operations against the communists. It is believed that the new strategy will help reduce casualties on the part of the government. Under joint operations, the 2d army region is taking charge of the offensive to capture the stronghold on the hill while the 1st army region has been responsible for the stronghold on the plain. Major General Wanchai said that the communists on Banthat Range have spilled over from the southern part of the northeast.

The 2d and 1st army regions have been trying hard to capture the communist strongholds in the northeast and the east following the capture of the communist strongholds in the north by the 3d army region and those in the south by the 4th army region. By using the new strategy, the 2d and 1st army regions hope that they will be able to bring the communist strongholds on Banthat Range under their full control within a short period of time.

CSO: 4220/309

MISSILE SALES, DELIVERY REPORTED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 20 Feb 82 p 4

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER Prem Tinsulanonda has finally clinched the "Redeye" deal from the United States following long-standing negotiations between the two governments. The "okay" came when Prem met senior American officials in Washington during his visit to Washington last October.

"The Redeye was something Thailand wanted very much and we managed to fulfill the wish," said the US embassy spokesman who added the purchase of the missiles would come under the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Programme.

Next Saturday, 20 sets of "Redeye" man-portable, shoulder-fired, air-defence guided-missiles system designed to provide combat units with the capability of destroying low-flying hostile aircraft will be handed over to Thailand in a ceremony at the Royal Thai Air Force Base at Don Muang.

A training module will demonstrate how the "Redeye" is used in the presence of Armed Forces Supreme Commander Gen Saiyud Kerdphol and American Ambassador John Gunther Dean.

The 20 Redeye missiles will cost Thailand about 25 million baht, according to Army Chief-of-Staff Lt Gen Parnoj Tavornchant.

The arrival of the US-made Redeye will be about 18 months after the unpublicized delivery of the British-made "Blowpipe" missiles which are now in service in the Royal Thai Air Force which had bought the missiles from the British manufacturers, Shorts in Belfast.

The Redeye and Blowpipe are similar man-portable, shoulder-fired guided-missiles, with the only difference being that the former is a heat-seeking device while the British version is equipped with a system to distinguish "hostile and friendly" aircraft.

Informed sources have said that the Blowpipe might have been deployed at some Thai AF units to protect airfields while the Redeye would be used by the Army, possibly along the sensitive border points where hostile aircraft might be sighted often.

The Redeye's infra-red sensing device homes on the heat of an aircraft's engines. It carries a high-explosive conventional warhead and has a two-stage solid-propellant engine. The light launching tube is also a carrying case and could be borne through brush and over rough terrain where no other air-defence weapon can go, an army officer said.

It is also officially known as FIM-43A, weighing about 13 kilograms with supersonic speed. It was developed in 1959 after a feasibility study in the previous year. An initial production contract was announced in 1964 and many thousands of the weapons have now been made.

"The Redeye can be fired in a matter of seconds after an enemy aircraft has been detected," said another army officer who explained that in the US army, the weapon is issued to Redeye teams, each made up of a gunner and assistant gunner. From four to six of these teams are assigned to a Redeye section at infantry battalion level.

Informed sources said that a proposed modification to make it suitable for helicopter launching is being studied by the US Army.

At the moment, the Redeye is known to be in service in Australia, Denmark, Greece, Israel, Jordan, Sweden and West Germany.

Several countries, including Britain and Austria have urged Thailand to diversify its sources of military weapons from the American government. Britain, for example, has sent a team of experts to explain to Thai military officers how the IMS (International Military

Sales) Programme works. Under the programme, lower interest rates are offered although repayment terms may not be necessarily longer than the American FMS deal.

Thai military officers have urged the American authorities to relax the FMS terms and to reduce the interest rates while extending the repayment periods. To a certain extent, the requests have been met although further discussions will continue.

Supreme Commander Gen Saiyud has personally been stressing the importance of joint logistics planning between Thai and American military officers so that American assistance could be channeled to Thailand within the shortest possible time in case of an emergency.

Informed sources said that the talks have been proceeding and several aspects of the joint logistics planning have been concluded.

RTA RECEIVES U.S. REDEYE MISSILES

BK280602 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 28 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] The first shipment of 20 redeye shoulderfired guided missiles arrived here from the U.S. yesterday and Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Pramot Thawonchan said they will be sent to army units on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

U.S. Ambassador to Thailand John Gunther Dean said during the ceremony to hand over the weapons to the Thai authorities that the supply of redeye missiles was part of the U.S. commitment to help Thailand improve its defence capacity. Supreme Commander Gen Saiyut Koetphon represented the Thai armed forces in receiving the redeye missiles at the air force airbase at Don Muang.

The U.S. envoy said the missiles were supplied to Thailand through the foreign military sales (FMS) programme at the personal request of Premier Prem Tinsulanon who visited the U.S. in October last year.

General Saiyut said the redeye missile will be first kept at the anti-aircraft artillery division and their usage will be later considered. General Pramot, however, said the missiles, which are capable of hitting supersonic aircraft, will be sent to army units on the Thai-Kampuchean border to boost their defence system. Two sets of the missiles will be used for training, he said.

"Our soldiers will be able to learn how to use the weapon fast. And after examination this morning, we are satisfied that everyone of them is in operational condition," he added.

The surface-to-air missile, which weighs 13 kgs and is 1.20 metres long, has an effective range of 3 kms. The 20 redeye missiles reportedly cost Thailand about 25 million baht.

The redeye's infra-red sensing device homes on the heat of aircraft's engines. It carries a high-explosive conventional warhead and has a two-stage solid-propellant engine. The light launching tube is also a carrying case and can be borne through brush and over rough terrain where no other air-defence system can go, according to an army officer.

The development of redeye missile began in 1959. In the U.S. Army, the weapon is issued to redeye team, each made up of a gunner and assistant gunner. From four to six of these teams are assigned to a redeye section at infantry battalion level. Thailand is apparently the first country in Asia to be supplied with redeye missiles.

CSO: 4220/308

TROOPS BATTLE BOOBY TRAPS IN SURAT THANI

BK240628 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 24 Feb 82 p 8

["Letter From Surat Hani" column by S. Kasithipradit: "'Booby-Trap War' Rages in Surat"]

[Text] Wiangsa, Surat Thani--Government troopers manning a major logistic route here are fighting a different kind of warfare from that being fought by their colleagues on the frontline. They called it a "booby-trap war."

Soldiers from the Hat Yai-based 15th Infantry Regiment are detailed to maintain the 10-km logistic route which is vital for the victory of the government forces fighting for control of Camp 357, an operational zone of southern communist insurgents now facing the ongoing all-out counter-insurgency drive.

The Fourth Army region launched spontaneous onslaught on both Camp 357 and Camp 508, the biggest in the south, in its attempt to weed out major communist strongholds in the south once and for all. "Although Camp 508 is our prime target, we also had to mount an all-out attack in nearby Camp 357 to prevent communist insurgents at the former stronghold from fleeing to the other camp," a field military officer told the NATION here. His statement is based on the fact that Camp 357, which is about 14 kms from Chong Chang pass, dubbed "the gate to Camp 508" had been closely linked to Camp 508.

The logistic route under "loose control" of the military troopers actually connects the two communist camps and communist insurgents are probably convinced of the strategic significance of the path. The military troopers have been deployed along the first 7 kms of the route to ensure that the logistic supplies to the forefront would not be severed. But as expected, they have come under heavy harassment.

"Communist insurgents constantly ambushed our forces posted along the route. Most of all, we are much vulnerable to booby traps whose eradication appears almost impossible," a soldier said.

Pvt Manit Mayi, a Muslim soldier sent from Narathiwat, told the NATION that the military troopers had to clear the same route every morning because communist insurgents have been planting booby traps on the route every night. "They carry out their mission during the night," he related. And if any

soldier strayed from the cleared path, he would take a high risk of falling victim to a bomb blast, he continued. "Booby traps seem to be everywhere and we could not detect every one of them," he said.

Admitting the difficulties maintaining the logistic route, Commander of the Force Capt Suraphan Thongphet said: "We partly pin our fate on our stars." He said that the military troopers have set ablaze the bushes along the route as they advanced so that they could more easily detect booby traps and land-mines.

Most of the booby traps planted by communist insurgents do not have enough power to kill their victims--but some were designed to stop armoured personnel carriers (APC). Nevertheless, the sight of soldiers falling victims to booby trap could shake the morale of their colleagues, according to senior military officials here. "The unlucky soldier might not be killed, but his wounds and painful cries could put his fellows in distress. In short, the booby traps have mental effects rather than a physical one," a senior official said.

Captain Suraphan said a convoy of logistic supplies had to be halted abruptly on Monday morning when a group of soldiers spearheading the convoy were ambushed by a batch of communist insurgents who appeared determined not to throw in their towel easily.

CSO: 4220/308

INSURGENTS OVERRUN VOLUNTEERS IN SOUTH

BK261359 Bangkok POST in English 28 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] Surat Thani--Communist insurgents driven from their mountain stronghold by government forces on Friday [27 February] night struck back by storming a national defence volunteer outpost, official sources said yesterday.

An estimated 150 guerrillas captured the outpost in Khian Sa District and made off with about 50 seized weapons, the sources said. They said the insurgents are believed to have fled the government suppression drive against them at Thung Chang Mountain range in Ban Na San District. They attacked the volunteer outpost at Ban Khao Lo in three groups, the sources said.

The national defence volunteers were outnumbered by the insurgents, but initial reports said they escaped injury. Details of the clash were not available.

Meanwhile, government forces continued the drive against communist strongholds at Thung Chang, capturing another satellite camp about 1 kilometre from Camp 508. The camp, which contained 15 dormitory huts, was taken after fierce fighting in which two government troopers were seriously wounded. A woman wearing the insurgents uniform was found lying dead in the camp. The troops also reportedly captured two suspected insurgents, identified as Pak Sae Iam, 41, and Prakit Limwong, 40, at the camp. A large quantity of rice, pigs and chicken was found.

Since the government drive against the insurgents in the Thung Chang area was launched 2 weeks ago, the government forces have lost 12 men killed and 102 wounded. Many communist guerrillas are also believed killed, but their bodies were dragged away by their comrades. Forty-two insurgents have been captured and 20 others have surrendered.

CSO: 4220/307

INSURGENTS KILL CONSTRUCTION GUARDS IN NORTH

BK090351 Bangkok POST in English 9 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] In less than 2 years, communist insurgents have killed nearly 100 men--mostly Chinese Haws--hired to protect construction work of a 15-kilometre section of a strategic highway which passes through terrorist-infested areas in Chiang Rai Province. The casualties include 14 men who were killed on 3 March when their pickup truck struck a landmine planted in Thoeng District.

Since June 1980, more than 180 men have been injured, including two who were wounded during last week's mine explosion. Many workers have also been reported missing.

These facts were revealed by Mrs Ratri Bundao, manager of the Akkra-Anong Company, contractor of the 96-kilometre highway. She also said that more than 10 million baht worth of construction equipment has been destroyed in RPG rocket attacks by the insurgents.

She said that all the victims of the 3 March explosion were Haws. When construction of the highway began in June 1980, the company employed 800 Haws. Now their number has dwindled to 400, said Mrs Ratri.

The 3 March incident occurred between kilometre marks 33 and 34 on the Ban Lung-Pang Ka Road--a stretch which had just been completed by the company.

Mrs Ratri said that under contracts signed with the Highways Department, her company had to arrange its own security. The Internal Security Operation Command (ISOC) agreed to allow the company to set up a force to protect its personnel, equipment and the highway and the 400 Haws currently hired are armed with M-16 assault rifles borrowed from the Third Army. Their monthly payroll amounts to about two million baht, Mrs Ratri said, but this did not cover the large amount of ammunition used. The Haws were selected as guards because they knew the local terrain very well, she said, but many are still killed, she added.

The Akkra-Anong Company is building a 15.2 kilometre stretch of the highway linking Thoeng District and Chiang Khong District of Chiang Rai. This stretch, expected to be completed next month, is constructed on an old road forming the middle section of the highway which runs parallel to the Thai-Burmese border.

Mrs. Natri described the 15.2 kilometre stretch as the most dangerous area of the whole highway. She said that the terrorists wanted to stop the new road being built because the route was previously freely occupied by them. On many occasions, up to 150 Haws had to be sent to flush out the insurgents. She said her company once offered "peace money" to the insurgents to stop the attacks. But the terrorists demanded 30 million baht which her company could not afford.

CSO: 4220/307

RTG AMMUNITION FOUND IN CPT CAMPS

BK100307 Bangkok POST in English 10 Mar 82 pp 1, 3

[Article by Rungruang Chinakun]

[Text] Nearly half a million rounds of ammunition for M16 rifles and M60 machineguns--most of them manufactured by the Army Ordnance Department--have been seized by government forces from captured communists camps in Chong Chang Mountain in Surat Thani last month.

Well-informed military sources in Surat Thani said several army officers of the Fourth Army region were shocked when they learned of the seizure of the large quantity of ammunition made during the suppression drive which began on 18 February.

Sources said the shocking discovery of the big haul of ammunition which is sufficient to supply the communists in Ching Chang Mountain for a year prompted a suspicion that the ammunition might be sold to the communists by government officials just for the sake of money regardless of the dire prospect that the bullets might one day be used against government troopers.

Rangers from Pakthongchai, Nakhon Ratchasima Province, who spearheaded the suppression drive, first discovered the ammunition--approximately 100,000 rounds, after they seized Camp 511 which is a satellite of Camp 508 on 20 February. Another haul of about 100,000 rounds of M16 and M60 ammunition was seized from Camp Sunthon which is an arsenal as well as production camp of the insurgents in Chong Chang the following day, said the sources. The rest--nearly 300,000 rounds--were discovered by troops after they seized the main Camp 508, Camp 357 and another arsenal, Camp 79.

Most of the M16 ammunition seized by the government forces were still in brand new cardboard boxes bearing the name of the manufacturer--the Royal Thai Army Ammunition Plant--and lot numbers. The M60 cartridges were contained in steel boxes.

A ranger bitterly complained to a POST reporter that he didn't understand why such a large number of ammunition had fallen into the hands of the insurgents. Apparently upset and enraged, he said he suspected some officials

might be involved in supplying the ammunition to the insurgents. He added that he was more concerned with the M60 cartridges which, he said, had inflicted heavy losses on the troopers and properties, for instances helicopters and vehicles.

Meanwhile government ground forces supported by helicopter gunships yesterday repulsed about 150 communist insurgents who launched a heavy attack against a military outpost in Ron Phibun District. The Ron Phibun military outpost in Kok Ko Village, Tambon Khao Phra was manned by about 100 military and defence volunteers. According to the Fourth Army region spokesman, the insurgents began their attack at about 3 am. They bombarded the outpost with M-79 grenade launchers and machine guns. No casualties were reported on either side, though many insurgents were believed killed by the gunships.

The terrorists were believed to be the remnants who fled from the Chong Chang Mountain in Na San District.

Commander of the outpost, Col Somphop Promprom told his men to fight to the last man and radioed for reinforcement from the Fourth Army region headquarters which sent two helicopter gunships to help.

CSO: 4220/307

EDITORIAL VIEWS SOVIET NAVAL CHALLENGE

BK110417 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 11 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Soviet Navy Is Flexing Muscles in the Pacific"]

[Text] Much has been written about the U.S.-Soviet naval confrontation in the Indian Ocean, about Diego Garcia, about the Third World reaction, and all the implications. Another question that has been raised concerns the straits of Malacca and who controls military shipping through that international waterway but there has been no clear answer to it. Now the question is who is holding the whip in the Pacific Ocean. We are particularly talking about the Soviet naval bases in Da Nang and Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam--superb naval facilities captured intact by Hanoi in 1975--and about the deep sea port of Kompong Som and the now-rebuilding naval facilities in Ream in Kampuchea.

There have been several news stories about how thin an edge the U.S. Navy holds over the Soviet Navy in the Pacific Ocean. The United States has been extremely sensitive about the Pacific ever since Pearl Harbor and after the war turned it into an American lake under the control of the Seventh Fleet with its naval bases in Hawaii and Subic Bay and with available naval facilities in Japan and South Korea. Naturally when we see the buildup of the Soviet Navy in the Gulf of Thailand we get worried, but there is nothing we can do about it since we do not have the kind of a navy which can match that of a super-power.

But actually there are other countries which should be more worried about this than Thailand--offhand we can name China, Japan and Australia. If from Vladivostok in the Soviet Union to Ream in Kampuchea, the Soviet Navy can ring the east of mainland Asia and Japan, the only country that can do anything about it is the United States. China has no blue water fleet and Japan, for a decade or two at least, can be counted out as a naval power. We know that the Americans have a psychosis about Pearl Harbor but that seems to have been replaced by the Vietnam syndrome.

On the other side, the Soviet Union controls South Yemen and may soon control Eritrea which will enable her to have the final say in the Red Sea shipping traffic. Designating 21 March as "Afghanistan Day" is not going to help the Afghans and there is a many a pessimist who has already written off Afghanistan which will eventually provide Moscow with her much-needed doorway to the

oil-rich countries of the Middle East. We know that the U.S. is deeply worried about this and, we also know, that the U.S. can do nothing about it.

But it is only natural that we, in Thailand, should be worried more about the Pacific Ocean and, particularly, about the Gulf of Thailand. We believe that National Security Council Secretary General Prasong Sunsiri is right in saying that the Soviet Union is pumping \$6 million a day into Indochina--the kind of money which we would call capital investment of an unprecedented military nature if the target was just defeating the Khmer Rouge. And with that kind of money being pumped in--on the presumption that it will be for a long time--China will have to re-think her strategy of bleeding Vietnam "white."

Ten years ago when there was a contest for naval superiority in the Indian Ocean, the Soviet Union thought it wise to leave the matter to be taken up by Third World countries since their approach was advantageous to herself. But right now, she seems to be challenging the U.S. in the Pacific Ocean and that move, for those of us in Southeast Asia, has frightening implications.

CSO: 4220/308

THAI-MALAYSIAN BORDER OPERATIONS DISCUSSED

BK090949 Hong Kong AFP in English 1241 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Penang, Malaysia, 8 Mar (AFP)—The communist threat along the Malaysian-Thai border is now well under control, Thai Supreme Commander General Saiyut Koetphon said here today.

He said army reinforcements sent by the two countries to the border areas following communist harassment late last year had been able to suppress the threats and calm things down.

He told reporters after visiting the Second Infantry Division Headquarters here that efforts by both sides were being directed to further raising the socio-economic standards of the people living along the common border as the situation now allowed. However, if the communists still posed a threat to the (?security) of the two countries, more joint border operations would be launched to put an end to it.

He stressed that the Thai side was even willing to assist and support its Malaysian counterpart in resisting and eliminating their common enemy in efforts to safeguard the sovereignty and integrity of both countries.

General Saiyut said troops that were being stationed along the Malaysian-Thai border now were capable of guarding the areas and facing any communist insurgency. He was accompanied by the Malaysian chief of defence forces, General Mohamed Ghazali Seth, during his visit. Earlier, General Saiyut was briefed on the division's task in the northern region of peninsular Malaysia and also held discussions with top Malaysian military officials on the security aspect at the border areas.

CSO: 4220/308

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON FAILURE OF KHMER COALITION

BK090435 Bangkok POST in English 9 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Khmer Resistance Still in Disarray"]

[Text] It must be very discouraging for the people of Kampuchea that while the Vietnamese are mounting a large offensive in their country, the leaders of the three major resistance factions cannot get together to form a loose coalition or a united front, in any kind of concerted opposition group at all. A determination to succeed in their objective comes only from the direction of Hanoi. In their single-minded purpose of subjugating Kampuchea and bringing it into a federation of Indochina under their domination, the Vietnamese have treated with insolence the opinion of the people of the world, expressed in the United Nations resolution. It should be recalled here that the resolution demands the Vietnamese forces withdraw from Kampuchean soil and that self-determination be granted its citizens.

So far, the invading forces which captured Phnom Penh in a lightning strike 3 years ago, have been unable to subdue the Kampuchean nation. Although they are armed by Soviet Russia, the Vietnamese are finding that the adventure into which they have launched is leading them into a quagmire of the kind the Americans found in Vietnam itself. As they have promised, the Kampuchean resistance fighters have been able to keep up the protracted guerrilla warfare against the foreign troops. However, unfortunately for Kampuchea's independence, the resistance groups have been unable to unite themselves for the common cause of driving out the intruders.

The Khmer Rouge, the Khmer People's Nation Liberation Front (KPNLF) of former Prime Minister Son Sann and the Moulinaka of the former head of state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, have so far been able to agree only to form a coalition under pressure from ASEAN. Since they met in Singapore during the latter part of last year, they have not made any progress whatsoever to achieve this aim. Each group is trying to gain the greatest possible political advantage without any thought about unity in the face of their enemy. The three groups hope to jockey themselves into positions which will help them obtain power if or when the Vietnamese forces withdraw. The trouble is, if they do not do anything now, the Vietnamese will remain and consolidate their control in their country. All these factions and their leaders will be left out in the cold.

CSO: 4220/307

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON NSC, FOREIGN MINISTRY CONFLICT

BK110143 Bangkok POST in English 11 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Hardly a Conflict of Interest"]

[Text] There appears to be misunderstanding about the views of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Security Council [NSC] on Kampuchea. The misconception came to the extent of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon having to say to the press that the opinions expressed by Secretary General Prasong Sunsirir of the National Security Council on the matter were his own personal ones. Why should this be the case?

We are certain that there is no real dispute over basic foreign policy issues between the minister of foreign affairs and the secretary general of the NSC, as was the case in Washington, D.C., in previous administrations there. In the United States, the stronger personality dominates wherever he is. When Dr Henry Kissinger was at NSC he dominated. Then he went to State. Now General Alexander Haig as secretary of state makes his influence felt.

In our case we have a foreign minister who was previously secretary general of the NSC. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila was widely acclaimed when he stepped into Saranrom Palace [Foreign Ministry] because his experience in NSC was considered most valuable at a time when foreign policy must include security aspects. As Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsirir, succeeding him in the NSC post, was formerly his assistant, the appointment of Marshal Sitthi to the foreign affairs portfolio was considered beneficial to the country as it would mean close coordination of foreign and security policies.

However, indications appeared in the press of possible disagreements between the foreign minister and the NSC secretary general. Actually, both have the national interest very much in mind. The objective of both is the same: the safety of Thailand. Views on how the objective can be achieved may be different or, indeed, should be different, because each must look at an international problem with security implications from a separate vantage point. Marshal Sitthi will have to study the diplomatic aspects and Squadron Leader Prasong how the problem may affect national security. If each then considers the other's viewpoints, a strategy advantageous to the country can be developed.

The most serious affair at the moment is that of Kampuchea. While there is general belief that views recently expressed by the NSC secretary-general were at variance with those of the minister of foreign affairs, leading the prime minister to make his statement about the NSC official voicing his personal opinions, there are no real discrepancies.

Squadron Leader Prasong stressed the need to implement the United Nations General Assembly resolution on Kampuchea—which calls for total withdrawal of Vietnamese forces and self-determination for the Kampuchean people. This is the basic policy of not only Thailand but also our ASEAN partners.

When he urged that we leave the question of a coalition of the Kampuchean resistance groups in the hands of the Kampucheans themselves he was stating the policy of non-interference in the affairs of other countries that is part of Thailand's and ASEAN's policy. What the NSC secretary general had done was to give reminders of principles and at the same time to reinforce those principles. In his own way he was supportive of Thai and ASEAN foreign policy.

CSO: 4220/307

EDITORIAL URGES IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WITH LAOS

BK101527 Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 8 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Thai-Lao, Friendship and Peace"]

[Text] The Thai Government delegation led by Gen Sitthi Chirarot, interior minister and chairman of the Thai-Lao Border Liaison Committee, has returned from a visit to the LPDR over the weekend. A press release was issued on the result of the visit which is said to be a successful one for both the host and the guests.

According to the interior minister, the three major topics discussed during the visit included the agreement by both sides to increase cooperation, especially through the local level of officials of both sides such as the provincial governors, in order to solve mutual conflicts; expansion of trade relations--a Thai trade delegation led by the director general of the Foreign Trade Department will visit Laos next; and finally the request by Laos for more border crossings in addition to the border passes in Nong Khai and Mukdahan.

The most significant success from this visit, however, is the atmosphere of mutual goodwill and friendship reported by the interior minister. Considering the close ties of the Thai and Lao people long established in history, this gesture of goodwill and friendship should not be construed only as a diplomatic gesture, but as friendship based on sincerity and mutual feelings between two neighbors.

Based on these special characteristics, Thai-Lao relations are not just those of government-to-government relations, but are mutual bonds of friendship felt by the peoples of both countries. This should serve as a contributive factor for the promotion of good understanding, cooperation and mutual assistance, and not that of suspicion, mistrust or mutual conflicts to the point that both sides have to resort to violence as has already happened in the past.

The government should review the policies and conducts of our foreign affairs in our relations with Laos in the past with a view to finding a better solution for our effort to improve friendly relations with Laos. We must

accept existing facts and conditions of the differences between the two countries in ideological and political matters as well as allegiance to bloc countries.

A close friendly relationship between Thailand and Laos based on sincerity will do more good than harm to Thailand and Laos themselves, particularly while other countries are exploiting the Kampuchean issue to pave the way for domination of the region rather than establishing peace.

CSO: 4207/64

CHANGES IN TAX STRUCTURE ANNOUNCED

BK270733 Bangkok POST in English 27 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] The government yesterday announced sweeping changes in the country's tax structure, lowering personal income taxes, raising the business tax on banks and imposing an unprecedented property sales tax in a move designed to bridge a wide income gap between rich and poor.

The tax changes, which are also intended to increase government revenues, will all take immediate effect except for the personal income tax cut which is effective retroactive to 1 January 1982.

At a glance, these are the highlights of the tax changes, announced yesterday and explained at a press conference by Finance Minister Sommai Huntrakun and Deputy Finance Minister Phaichit Uathavikun:

Tax-deductible allowances were raised and the assessable income base widened so as to give taxpayers more take-home pay;

Import duties were lowered on certain luxury goods, like electronics;

Interest rate on fixed deposits was raised from 10 to 12.5 percent;

Business tax on commercial banks was raised from 2.5 to 3 percent;

Business tax on profit earned by commercial banks from foreign exchange dealings was raised from 10.5 to 15 percent;

Stamp duty on commercial papers and cheques was raised;

A progressive tax on property sale was introduced for the first time;

And tax evaders were told that they would be spared fines and other criminal charges if they paid their owed taxes by 31 May.

Also officially announced was the retention of medium land price scale which was enforced between 1978 and 1981 and which forms the base on which the land development tax is calculated. A new scale had recently been introduced by the cabinet but it was later withdrawn following protests from land-owners about them being put under too much burden.

In its official statement, the government explained that the tax changes are designed to ease the public burden during these days of economic difficulties, make the tax burden more equitable for all and boost government revenues to narrow the budget deficit, and finance economic and social development and defence programmes.

According to official estimates, the government will lose about 1,800 million baht in revenues from the relaxation of personal income tax in 1982 alone. Nevertheless, some 4,000 million baht will be recovered during the rest of the current fiscal year from the higher taxes levied in other areas plus the new property tax.

The tax on interest gained from fixed deposits at commercial banks, finance and credit foncier companies, was upped from 10 to 12.5 percent.

Some time ago, the government had planned to make such interest earnings a part of the assessable income as of 1984. But in raising the tax on interest rate, the government said it would extend this for 5 years, effective this year, after which it would "review" the policy.

The business tax on commercial banks was increased from 2.5 to 3 percent and on their revenue from foreign exchange dealings from 10.5 to 15 percent. Stamps on cheques were also increased from 1 baht to 2 baht.

As for new tax on sales of immovable properties either acquired through inheritance or non-profit motives, one half of the sale value is deductible as expenses while the other half will be taxed in accordance with the personal income tax rate. However, the amount of tax shall not exceed 10 percent of the sale value.

On the personal income tax, the deductible parts of a taxpayer's income were increased--for his personal expenses and his spouse's from 10,000 to 12,000 baht each, for his children from 5,000 to 7,000 baht each and for life insurance from 4,000 to 7,000 baht.

The personal income tax rate was also adjusted in favour of taxpayers by widening the amount of each interval of taxable income after deductions.

To prevent smuggling, tariff rates on electrical appliances and audio equipment were slashed from 80 percent to only 40 percent, and only 10 percent for their accessories. This will also help encourage local producers to improve their competitive edge. The business tax levied on contractors' income was also raised from 2 to 3 percent.

Commenting on the adjustments in tax on interest on fixed deposits, Finance Minister Sumanai said that the decision not to include as assessable income the earnings from such interest until 1987 at least is aimed at encouraging public savings. This will in turn help boost foreign investment as investors will be assured of the government's policy on the matter for the next 5 years, he said.

He added that the 2.5 percentage-point increase in interest had to be effected because the current rate was too low. The rate of increase is still considered mild if compared to the rate that would have taken effect had it been included as part of the assessable income.

Calling the imposition of property sale tax "an appropriate move," Deputy Finance Minister Dr Phaichit said that the tax had to be levied on such sales "for the sake of justice." "And because of the imposition of such tax, the government can alleviate the burden of personal income taxpayers. Otherwise, the easing of income tax is impossible," he explained.

"It is possible that those who never paid such tax before are disgruntled with the imposition. But we had no choice. Besides, the tax rate is relatively low as we limited it to 10 percent of sale value at the maximum," he added.

CSO: 4220/307

MUSLIM RELIGIOUS TEACHERS NOT PAID

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 22 Feb 82 p 2

[Text]

NARATHIWAT - Almost 500 Islamic religious teachers, recruited for the first course of its kind this year in five southern provinces, have not been paid for more than five months despite persistent complaints sent to Bangkok.

Informed sources told *The Nation* in separate interviews here over the weekend that none of the 495 religious affairs teachers in 493 schools in Yala, Narathiwat, Pattani, Songkhla and Satun had been paid their promised remuneration of 30 baht per hour since the course was launched for the first time in the new fiscal year (Oct 1, last year).

One of the teachers, Mr Abdul Baso in Narathiwat, said all the nearly 500 teachers recruited for the government schools in the five provinces had been facing financial hardships as a result of the failure by the Secondary Education Board in Bangkok to transfer the budget to the provincial education unit to pay the teachers.

"We have been teaching for five months but none of us has been paid one baht yet. All of us are in financial trouble since we have no other sources of income. We have repeatedly appealed to concerned government agencies. But so far, it doesn't seem like we would get paid in the near future," Mr Abdul Baso said.

The scheme to recruit teachers to teach a course on Islamic religious affairs began in the new fiscal year (last October) in government-run secondary schools in the five, mostly Muslim-dominated, southern provinces. At the rate of 30 baht per hour for each tea-

cher, the total annual budget for the 495 teachers for this project would come to about seven million baht.

But an official directly in charge of the scheme based in Yala province told *The Nation* that so far the budget had not been transferred to the local administrative unit. "That's why nobody has been paid so far," he said.

Another senior provincial official confirmed that the teachers had lodged their complaints on many occasions. "We also have been receiving telephone calls enquiring about the payment. But we have not been able to give them any hope," he said.

He added that the total amount of wages in arrears so far would be in the range of three to four million baht.

"By usual practice, the money would have been transferred from Bangkok to the provincial education agencies around November or December but now, it's the end of February but nothing has happened yet," an education officer of Yala province complained.

"We are afraid that the teachers may simply boycott the classes or walk out of the jobs since they haven't been paid at all. And this is a new, experimental project. This sort of problem shouldn't have happened at all," said another local education officer.

The 495 teachers are assigned to 493 schools in five provinces as follows: 184 teachers in 191 schools in Narathiwat; 112 teachers at 111 schools in Pattani; 107 teachers at 107 schools in Yala; 74 teachers at 67 schools in Satun and 18 teachers at 18 schools in Songkhla.

FALL OF CULT LEADER DESCRIBED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Mar 82 p 5

[Article by Wirasak Salayakanond]

[Text]

BANGKOK The house of Suchart Kosolkittong, the self-styled Thai prince known as a poor man's version of the infamous Jim Jones of Guyana Massacre, has come tumbling down.

The cult leader's religious centre, *Hooppha Sawan* (Heaven Valley) has been raided by the police, and Suchart himself is a fugitive from the law. Suchart, who called himself the "world peace envoy", barely escaped the raiders, but he is facing charges ranging from conspiracy and sabotage to internal security to possibly treason.

A fourth grader, Suchart started his climb to infamy by posing as a spiritual medium. He established his base in 1966 in a Bangkok suburb.

Soon his followers numbered several thousands and by late last year he claimed to have established 55 offices throughout Thailand and a following of 100,000.

Among the members of his cult were rich Chinese merchants who bankrolled the organisation. The movement flourished in such way that it was able to acquire land and construct *Hooppha Sawan* at a cost of 50 million baht (\$2.3 million).

In his headquarters at *Hooppha Sawan* in Ratchaburi province about 150 kilometres southwest of Bangkok, Suchart presided over the ritualistic raising of the American, Thai and Soviet flags every morning with the same fervour that he devoted to the propagation of his cult.

On his office walls hang pictures of himself posing with world leaders, including Pope John Paul II, former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and a host of other dignitaries.

Suchart claimed that his "world peace centre" was an affiliate of the U.N. And with the growth of the movement he led Suchart basked in wild dreams, including the establishment of a world government to be based at *Hooppha Sawan*.

He said: "We want to establish world government that would exercise absolute power over the international community. Our world government will act as a unifying centre that would create harmony among the peoples of the globe".

His aim was not to rule the world, "but to prevent World War III and attain world peace".

The rise of the house of Suchart was partly the fault of some gullible senior military and police officers. At the beginning of the movement, Suchart cashed in on the failure of the authorities to check his claim that he had the backing of the U.N. A routine check with the U.N. could have unmasked him earlier, but the U.N. External Relations Division, Department of Public Information itself was a victim of Suchart's bluff.

He presented himself as a Thai prince and some U.N. officials were apparently hoodwinked. From the Bangkok suburb, Suchart moved his headquarters to Pakthor district in Ratchaburi province where the cult actually started to gain wide support.

He counted among his followers army and police generals and Dr. Klum Vatcharabot, a well-known Thai scientist. Flashed by his success, Suchart started extending his activities to the political field. His high visibility and anti-government pronouncements were to cost him dearly.

His pro-Soviet statements aroused suspicion and soon several government security units started hounding him.

Activist groups, like the Navapol Movement, the Chanuan Movement and others launched separate campaigns against Suchart's flock. Government security agencies suspect that a foreign government, presumably the Soviet Union, was bankrolling illegal activities at Hooppha Sewan.

In late 1980, the cult centre committee under the chairmanship of Suchart wrote King Bhumibol asking him to abdicate and become instead, a Prime Minister. The letter was made public only recently, but it was enough to trigger public demand that Suchart be charged with treason.

Last October, Suchart financed the publication of a book entitled *Wan Sin Char: Thai or The Domsday of the Thai Nation*. In it he predicted that Vietnam would launch a massive attack on Thailand in October 1982.

The Government reacted angrily to the book as it tended to "disturb" the morale of the people. Suchart's Russian connection was traced to a visit he made to the Soviet Union in early 1979 to attend a conference on religion.

Police Lt. Chaowarin Lattasakuri, a Democrat Party Member of Parliament for Ratchaburi, said last December that an organisation known as the Asian Buddhist Conference for peace had sent Suchart three return tickets to Russia.

Chaowarin himself accompanied Suchart to Russia. On their return, Chaowarin published a booklet which was produced by one of Suchart's organisations.

He now claims that a member of Suchart's group had asked him to write the article for the booklet which he did as a "gesture of courtesy".

Suchart and Chaowarin's relationship started to cool when the police officer took the initiative to erect a statue to King Rama I in Ratchaburi. Suchart wanted that instead of Ratchaburi, Chaowarin should promote the statue of the King already erected at the cult's centre.

Suchart himself preferred to remain ambiguous about Soviet donations to his organisation. "We are not saying that we will not accept contribution from the Soviet Union, but if there are to be donations from that direction, we would prefer that it pass through government channels", he once told a reporter.

Then he corrected himself by saying that the Soviet ambassador to Thailand had offered to finance the construction of his headquarters, but he turned down the offer.

He stressed though that his movement depends on public donations, and that he was not ruling out outside help. Suchart's attacks on the Government during his long "sermons" on the 19th of every month have only intensified the administration's anger with the cult leader.

"We have ample evidence that Suchart has made numerous anti-government remarks", a special branch police officer told this correspondent.

When police raided Hooppha Sewan, Suchart wiggled himself out of the jam by mixing with his disciples.

But how long he will remain a fugitive remains to be seen.

BRIEFS

IRAN TOP RICE BUYER--Iran last year replaced the Soviet Union as the largest buyer of Thai rice, with total purchases of 349,712.85 tons of rice Thailand exported in 1981. The Soviet Union, the top buyer in 1980, became the second largest buyer, with total purchases of 277,086.38 tons or about 8.93 percent of Thailand's total rice exports. Malaysia ranked third, with 255,194.2 tons or about 8.2 percent of the total rice exports. China came fourth, with 210,744.1 tons or about 6.8 percent followed by Indonesia, which had been the top buyer at one time, with 199,879.9 tons or 6.44 percent. In sixth place was Senegal, with 146,938.9 tons or 4.75 percent, and Hong Kong was seventh, with 120,270.7 tons or 3.9 percent. The African countries bought a total of 589,215.39 tons or about 19.3 percent of the total Thai rice exports. [Text] [BK080851 Bangkok POST in English 8 Mar 82 p 17]

MORE U.S. TANKS TO ARRIVE--Another shipment of American-made M48-15 tanks will be delivered to the Royal Thai Army on 5 May, the Supreme Command said in a release yesterday. The tanks are part of an arms package deal under the foreign military sale programme. The Supreme Command said further that chiefs of the three armed forces who met yesterday under the chairmanship of Supreme Commander General Saiyut Koetphon felt that although fighting in Kampuchea is likely to intensify, there are no indications yet that it will adversely affect Thailand's security. The command said the military chiefs were satisfied with the defence preparations on all border fronts, particularly on the Thai-Kampuchean frontier. On foreign military assistance, the command said military aids from the United States and its allies will probably increase since they have realised that Thailand is determined to defend itself against foreign aggression. The military chiefs, said the command, also agreed upon a plan to build a statue in memory of the civilians, police and soldiers who died fighting for the country. The statue is tentatively sited near Wiphanwadi Rangsit Highway north of the Don Muang Airport. [Text] [BK160453 Bangkok POST in English 16 Mar 82 p 1]

JOURNAL'S DISTRIBUTION BAN LIFTED--The ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL was distributed in Bangkok for the first time in 8 weeks yesterday, following the lifting of a ban prompted by an article on the Thai monarchy. The Hong Kong-published newspaper's distributor in Thailand, Indoprom, confirmed last night that it had been notified that the ban--imposed in January--had been lifted following an appeal by the publishers. Thursday's issue of the paper was distributed to subscribers last night. The police department ordered

the total ban on sale or distribution of the business newspaper on 21 January, in response to an article published on 23 December about the future of the Thai monarchy. Police said the article contained statements which were counter to law and order and public morality. The Honolulu-based writer of the article, Michael Schmicker, was declared personal non grata. The issue of the paper distributed last night reported that the special branch of the police department had "advised the newspaper to be careful in what it published about Thailand, especially about the monarchy." [Text] [BK120357 Bangkok POST in English 12 Mar 82 p 5]

'NOMAD' WAR PLANES PURCHASE--Thailand is buying 20 Australian-built "Nomad" aircraft in a deal worth more than \$30 million for use in its anti-insurgency campaign. An air force spokesman in Bangkok said the multipurpose military version of the "Nomad" was ideal for the anti-insurgency campaign because it could be adapted as a troop carrier, transporter and gunship. He said the first two planes would be delivered in September, eight would follow a year later and the final 10 would leave the manufacturer in September 1984. [Text] [BK250934 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Feb 82]

POPULATION CENSUS--The country's population reached 47,875,002 by the end of last year, an increase of 1.92 percent or 913,664 higher than the previous year's figures, according to the local administration department's latest census. The census, which was made at the end of last year, showed that of all the population, 24,067,597 are male and 23,807,405 are female. The department's surveys also showed that 11 provinces in the country have more than 1 million population, led by Bangkok metropolis with 5,331,402 persons while the least-populated province is the southern province of Ranong with only 86,193 people. [Text] [BK120519 Bangkok WORLD in English 11 Mar 82]

WITNESS FOR PREM GOVERNMENT--Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Athit Kamlanek yesterday declared his allegiance to the Prem government and vowed to fight coup plotters. He said that the rumours of an imminent coup were aimed to undermine the stability of the government and the economy of the country. Gen Athit, who is concurrently first army region commander, dismissed as baseless the rumours that he would stage a coup against the government. [Text] [BK140208 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 8 Mar 82 p 6]

REFUGEE MATCHES, ANTIPIRACY OPERATIONS--About 8,000 ethnic Thais who fled from Koh Kong of Kampuchea into Trat Province in Thailand will be moved into Mai Mai holding centre from their original camp in Khao-I-Dang where the majority of the displaced persons are Kampucheans. "The Thai Government has made arrangements for these people to become Thai citizens and lead a normal life in Thailand," according to Col Sanan Khachonklam of the Supreme Command's Joint Operations Centre. On the anti-piracy operations, the military officer said that the 1982 project was under discussion with UNHCR offering a fund of \$64.6 million for this purpose. He said the 1981 operation was satisfactorily completed by the anti-piracy centre in Songkhla. "The centre is responsible for suppression of piracy in an area covering about one third of the Gulf of Thailand," he said. [Excerpts] [BK110317 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 11 Mar 82 p 3]

ASEAN NOT FORMING PACT--Deputy Prime Minister Thanat Khoman says that the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, has no intention of forming itself into a military alliance because bilateral security arrangements among its five member countries are adequate to protect the countries from any external threat. At a press conference upon his arrival from Malaysia, the deputy prime minister said that he has personally advocated a collective political defense emphasizing the military aspect. However, the bilateral arrangements among the member countries of ASEAN should not be excluded. The deputy prime minister indicates that there have already been joint air exercises between member countries on a bilateral basis and the joint operations between Malaysia and Thailand under a regional border committee are proceeding smoothly. [Text] [BK150453 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 15 Mar 82]

FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES--A group of the Thai-French Parliamentary Friendship Association arrived in Thailand yesterday as guests of the Thai House of Representatives. The six-man team will discuss with Thai members of Parliament the ways and means to promote and improve relations between the two countries and to learn about Thai foreign policy. They will visit a number of industrial plants in Bangkok and the suburb areas during the visit. They are scheduled to call on the Thai deputy foreign minister and to visit the Kampuchean refugee holding centers along the Thai-Kampuchean border. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 16 Feb 82]

TRADE PROTOCOL WITH CHINA--Thailand and China signed a trade protocol for the purchase of 12 Thai agricultural products and China's crude oil. In Bangkok the protocol agreement was signed by the director general of the Department of Foreign Trade and his Chinese counterpart. Following the signing ceremony, the Chinese official revealed that his country has set a target to export 100,000 tons of crude oil and 80,000-100,000 tons of diesel oil to Thailand. In return, Thailand will sell 12 of her major products to China. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 16 Feb 82]

SUBMARINE GAS PIPE PROJECTS--The petroleum authority of Thailand has plans to start two gas pipeline laying projects this year. The first project involves the laying of 43-km long submarine pipeline from a Union Oil production platform to an existing main pipeline. This project will enable bringing up additional 167 million cubic feet of natural gas for use daily. The project will be completed in another 2 years. Another project involves the laying of 170-km pipeline linking the Texas Pacific platform with that of the Union Oil platform. The project will be completed in 1985 and will bring up another 250 million cubic feet of natural gas daily. [BK170331 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 16 Feb 82]

JANUARY RICE EXPORTS DROP--Thai rice exports last month dropped considerably in both volume and value when compared to January 1981 figures. The Foreign Trade Department reports that only about 230,000 tons of rice worth about 1.7 billion baht were exported last month which showed a sharp fall of about 38 percent in volume and about 45 percent in value. The Foreign Trade Department reports that the steep decline in earning was a result of lower rice prices in world markets. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 6 Feb 82]

ASIAN NEWS NETWORK--China will give full cooperation in carrying out the Asian news exchange program. The assurance was given by three senior Chinese officials from the PEOPLE'S DAILY, XINHUA News Agency and All-China Journalist Association who yesterday morning called on Public Relations Department Director General Kampuchat Kiphanit. The Chinese mass media authorities said the program is of great importance for the reason that news reports by the countries where events happen must be more accurate and reliable. They view that news about Asia must be reported and analyzed by Asian journalists themselves. Director General Kampuchat has expressed the hope that China will join the Asian news exchange program and play a great role to make it more progressive. The mass media authorities came here to attend the United Nations eight mass media leaders roundtable held in Bangkok last week. [Text] [BK020609 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 2 Mar 82]

OFFICIALS TO BE INVITED TO PRC--Thai Ambassador to Beijing Koson Sinthuanon says that the Chinese Government will invite Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila to revisit China. The Thai ambassador says that an official invitation will soon be submitted to the Thai Government. Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila visited China once in October 1979. [Text] [BK141518 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 14 Feb 82]

DEBRAY VISIT REPORTED--Special adviser to the French president Regis Debray has reaffirmed that France has called for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, in a statement issued in Bangkok over the weekend following his visit to Thailand. Mr Debray says that France has also called for a peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean problem. He visited Thailand last week in the framework of a fact-finding mission entrusted him by French President Francois Mitterrand. While in Thailand, he held talks with top Thai officials on the refugee problem and the situation in Southeast Asia. [Text] [BK030335 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 3 Mar 82]

CANADIAN LOAN FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION--The Canadian Government, through its International Development Agency, has agreed to provide a 234 million baht loan to Thailand for the second stage of the rural electrification project by the Provincial Electricity Authority. The loan will be used for the purchase of 3,700 tons of aluminium ingots from Canada for making electricity wire. The second stage of the rural electrification scheme will benefit 27 provinces, including all the southern provinces and seven provinces in the central and northern regions. [BK150617 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 11 Mar 82]

JAPANESE FORESTRY AID--The Japanese Government has agreed to grant 310 million baht in aid for two forestry development projects in Thailand. The first project is the setting up of botanical gardens throughout the country with the assistance of Japanese experts. This project will cost 40 million baht and will take 3 years to complete. Another project involves the establishment of a research and training center forestry at Pak Thongchai District in Nakhon Ratchasima Province. The project will cost 270 million baht. [BK150617 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 12 Mar 82]

'LEGAL CONTROL' OF HILLTRIBES--According to a new plan drawn up by the National Security Council, an estimated 500,000 hilltribesmen in the north will be brought under legal control of the Thai Government. Secretary General of the National Security Council Gen Idr Prasong Sunsirir says that the plan envisages the eradication of all poppy fields grown by the hilltribesmen. He says that at present, hilltribesmen in northern Thailand have cultivated about 14,000 acres of poppy fields which yield about 40 to 50 tons of raw opium annually. The secretary general adds that the Thai Government would have to cooperate with the Burmese Government in carrying out the plan. [Text] [R0050425 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 5 Mar 82]

TIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION--Thailand has agreed in principle on the setting up of the Association of Tin Producing Countries as proposed by Malaysia. The agreement was reached during the meeting between the industry ministers of the two countries in Bangkok. In the statement issued following the meeting, the Thai industry minister says that the setting up of the Association of Tin Producing Countries will benefit miners and tin producing countries. The statement has also urged tin producing countries to ratify the 6th international tin agreement in April this year so that they will be ready in case the agreement is not effective. The United States has already refused to sign the agreement and kept on releasing tin from its stockpile to the world market. This action was strongly criticised by Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia which produce about 65 percent of world total tin production. [Text] [BK280713 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 28 Feb 82]

AUSTRALIAN AID FOR REFUGEES--The government of Australia has decided to grant an additional 3 million Australian dollars to help alleviate the plight of Kampuchean illegal immigrants taking refuge along the Thai-Kampuchean border. According to the Australian ambassador to Thailand, the aid will include 1,724 tons of rice and cash of about 1 million Australian dollars which will be donated through the UN aid agencies. He said the rest of the donation worth about 2 million Australian dollars will be reserved for buying rice and other necessities. [BK241127 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 22 Feb 82]

TRADE SURPLUS WITH ASIAN--The Foreign Trade Department has reported that Thailand enjoyed 12.25 million balance of trade surplus in trade with its ASEAN partners through tax privilege scheme last year. According to the department, the country last year exported \$4.69 million worth of goods to ASEAN countries under the preferential trade arrangement while importing \$2.44 million worth of goods from these countries. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 11 Mar 82]

EXPORT TARGET INCREASE RATE--In an effort to further improve the country's trade balance, Thailand has set its export target with an annual increase rate of about 22 percent as stipulated in the current Fifth National Economic and Social Development plan. Deputy Prime Minister Gen Premchai Adireksan disclosed the above at the opening ceremony of a seminar on national export acceleration organized by the Thai Export Promotion Center in Bangkok. Major export markets to be penetrated are countries in the Middle East, East and North Europe, Africa and the United States. [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 12 Mar 82]

TAX AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA--On 18 February in Jakarta the Thai ambassador to Indonesia and the Indonesian foreign minister exchanged ratification documents on the agreement on avoidance of double taxation and on prevention of income and investment tax evasion. [BK221521 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1300 GMT 19 Feb 82]

OIL PRODUCTION PROJECTS--According to the industry minister, the Thai Shell Exploration and Production Company will bring up 5,000 barrels of crude oil daily for production from its well in Kamphaengphet Province by the end of this year. The production will later increase to 15,000 barrels daily. The crude oil will be refined at the refinery in Si Racha, Chon Buri Province. [BK120515 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 9 Mar 82]

GOVERNMENT REVENUE, EXPENDITURE--The Finance Ministry has reported the revenues and expenditures during the first quarter of the 1982 fiscal year, from October to December 1981, as follows: Government revenues stood at 29,869.4 million baht whereas expenditures were 24,083.8 million baht, or 1,785.6 million baht lower than the revenues. The revenues came from the government's income--at 23,422.7 million baht, and from loans--at 6,446.7 million baht. The overall expenditures can be broken down to administrative expenditures at 22,369.7 million baht and loan repayment at 1,714.1 million baht. [BK091019 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 7 Mar 82]

MINISTER ON TRADE WITH YUGOSLAVIA--We have offered to sell tapioca to Yugoslavia for the production of animal feed for export to other countries. Rubber is another product we asked Yugoslavia to buy from us, instead of from other countries. Yugoslavia now buys rubber from Thailand and will continue to do so. The reason the Yugoslavs came to meet me today was to discuss the trade pattern between our two countries because the Yugoslav Government does not barter goods with other countries. I told him that our country follows free enterprise system, and therefore our foreign trade is mainly handled by the private sector. We will only barter our goods for foreign products which the government has to use. Yugoslavia wants to sell industrial products such as tractors to Thailand. I recommended that the Yugoslav Government develop the market for its products in this country or appoints representatives to compete with similar products from other countries. [Insert] [Statement by Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister Chuan Likhai on Thai-Yugoslav trade--recorded, date not given] [BK120903 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 11 Mar 82]

INSURGENTS IN NORTHEAST--According to Col Charjai Nindit, representative of the internal security operations command region 2, during the past 3 months insurgent activities in the northeast have been concentrated in Nakhon Phanom, Udon Thani and the northern section of Ubon Ratchathani Province. Such activities include ambushing government officials and destruction of materials used in development work and assistance of the local people. As of January 1982, training under the volunteer defense corps program covered 6,140 villages and 579,511 people in the northeast. Some 199 village volunteer militias have been organized and a further 2,000 have been given similar training by the Public Health Ministry. The various suppression campaigns launched during October 1981-January 1982 resulted in 350 communist

terrorists surrendering to the government, the arrest of 39 and the death of four others. According to Colonel Charuai, there were about 6,000 communist terrorists in the northeast in 1973 but they number about 1,300-1,400 now. There are indications that there will be a large number of communist terrorists surrendering to the government this year as the majority of the local people have ceased to support them and as the local people have joined forces to courageously fight the communist terrorists. [Excerpts] [BK010609 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 28 Feb 82]

BURMESE, FRG AMBASSADORS--On 12 February his majesty the king separately received credentials from U Sae Myint, the Burmese ambassador to Thailand, and Dr (Johannes Christian Lagess), the FRG ambassador to Thailand. [BK170331 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 12 Feb 82]

TRADE WITH ASIAN COUNTRIES--According to the Business Economics Department, in 1981 Thailand suffered 29.113 billion baht in trade deficit with countries in Asia. During the first 10 months of 1981, Thailand suffered 167 million baht in trade deficit with ASEAN countries, the first time ever in the past 10 years. During the 10 months, trade deficit with Singapore increased from 1.004 billion baht to 3.675 billion baht. Thailand's trade deficit with Japan increased to 10.018 billion baht. Its trade deficit with the PRC in 1981 was 3.128 billion baht, 2.23 billion baht with Taiwan and 2.727 billion baht with Brunei. [BK170331 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 13 Feb 82]

INTERIOR MINISTER ON AMMUNITION FIND--Interior Minister Gen Sitthi Chirarot said he does not believe that the large quantity of ammunition in cardboard boxes marked with the name of the Thai Army which was captured from the communist camp in the area of Khao Chong Chang in Surat Thani Province was sold to the communists by army personnel. He said it is not difficult for the communists to procure ammunition and weapons. However, he did not deny that some corrupt officials had sold some ammunition to the terrorists. The interior minister further said that large amounts of weapons and ammunition from the war in Indochina and the current fighting in Kampuchea have long been smuggled into Thailand. Besides, he added, the terrorists have also acquired weapons and ammunition through attacks on government outposts. The terrorists also obtain medical supplies in the same ways. They can buy medical supplies from hospitals, drug stores or receive them from government medical units which have been sent out to distribute medicines to the people because the authorities do not know the people who come to get medicine from them. [Text] [BK120646 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 11 Mar 82]

SAIYUT ON THAI-MALAYSIAN AIR EXERCISES--Thailand and Malaysia recently held a joint air exercise, codenamed Thamal 1, under the agreement signed at the 26th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian Joint Border Committee. Supreme Commander Gen Saiyut Koetphon today granted an interview to newsmen at the Supreme Command Information Center on this issue. He said: [Begin Saiyut recording] Last year Thailand and Malaysia held a joint command exercise to align the two countries' patterns of operations and communication networks. The result of that exercise was satisfactory. This year, the two countries held another joint field exercise based on the results of last year's exercise. The

exercises were carried out in accordance with the Thai-Malaysian joint border agreement which was signed at the 26th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian Joint Border Committee, which was held in Bangkok. I would like to emphasize here that the exercise has no connection with ASEAN. It is aimed at providing security and well-being for the Thai and Malaysian people in the areas along the common border where the Chinese communist guerrillas are operating. [End recording] [Excerpt] [BK131100 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 12 Mar 82]

AIR EXERCISES WITH MALAYSIA--According to the air force, the Thai and Malaysian air forces will hold a joint air exercise from 8-15 March. The Butterworth Air Base in Malaysia will be the joint command headquarters for the exercise. The joint air exercise--codenamed "Air Thanaal 1"--will be the first joint air exercise between the Thai and Malaysian air forces. There will be no participation by other countries. Live ammunition will be used during the exercise, which will cover areas along Thai-Malaysian border. The purpose of the exercise is to develop coordination between the air forces of the two countries in operations against ground targets for improved efficiency in future joint operations. [Excerpt] [BK050827 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 4 Mar 82]

SUPREME COMMANDER ON U.S. AID--Commenting on U.S. assistance to Thailand, Supreme Commander Gen Saiyut Koetphon said President Reagan has requested congressional approval for increased gratis aid for Thailand in the form of educational and economic assistance this year. This proves that the United States is sincere and is keeping its promise regarding assistance to Thailand. "I believe the border problem is a reason for the United States considering more aid for us," the supreme commander said. [Excerpt] [BK150741 Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 13 Mar 82 p 12]

COUP RUMORS DENIED--Lt Gen Chantharakhup Sirisut, secretary to the prime minister, held a press conference at Government House on 8 March in connection with the widespread rumors about a coup and a possible change of government. He said that despite rumors the people should not worry, because the government is still stable and he sees no reason for anyone to stage a coup now, since there is only a short time left before the general elections. Besides, the prime minister himself has done nothing to hurt others. Concerning the economic problems, Lieutenant General Chantharakhup said the problems are widespread and there is no guarantee that the national economy will improve if the government is toppled. The secretary to the prime minister noted that it is difficult to solve the problem of rumors. It is enough to have a telephone in one's hand to spread a rumor. There are many people who have ill intentions against their own country and many of them take pleasure in watching others' difficulties. Yet, the authorities have not remained idle, but are always trying to stop this spreading of rumors. Asked if the prime minister was not worried about his position during his upcoming tour to Europe late next month, Lt Gen Chantharakhup Sirisut said: "Certainly not, the prime minister is already 63 years old. His trip to Europe will benefit the country. He will try to encourage Europeans to invest in our country." [Excerpts] [BK101040 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 9 Mar 82 pp 1, 12]

RETURN OF AN-26 TO SRV--The spokesman for the Thai Foreign Ministry disclosed that during the meeting between the Thai deputy under secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the Vietnamese ambassador to Thailand, the Vietnamese ambassador was told that the Thai Foreign Ministry is still awaiting a complete report from the Thai Supreme Command Headquarters before deciding whether or not Thailand should return the Vietnamese plane Antonov-26 type and its crew that had violated the Thai airspace by crashlanding in the Thai territory on 11 February this year. The Thai under secretary of state [as heard] pointed out that there is a set of official procedures to be undertaken regarding this matter before the final decision and action can be taken and these procedures applied to all the countries concerned without exception. The Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the recent report by the mass media concerning the return of the Vietnamese plane and its crew should not be taken as an official decision of the Thai Government, since the investigation into the cause of the crash is still inconclusive. He said that Thailand will stand firm in upholding its national security and national dignity while also bearing in mind the good relations between Thailand and Vietnam. The Thai Government has given permission for the Vietnamese ambassador to visit the two injured Vietnamese crew for purely humanitarian reasons. The Vietnamese plane, all the equipment and all its crew are well looked after by the Thai authorities. [Text] [BK271429 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 27 Feb 82]

TAPIOCA, MOLASSES TO ROK--The ROK has agreed to buy 150,000 tons of tapioca chips and 5,000 tons of molasses from Thailand to be used for its alcohol production. The agreement was made during a meeting between the commerce minister and the visiting ROK trade representative. The tapioca deal is the first sale of Thai tapioca to the ROK. [BK100735 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 9 Feb 82]

FOREIGN INVESTMENT CAPITAL--According to a report from the Bank of Thailand, foreign investment capital in the form of business investment and shareholding over the past year amounted to 3,913.82 million baht. When compared to the amount of 3,703.78 million baht in the preceding year, this year's investment represents an increase of only 5.7 percent. The increases derived from the following businesses: financial institutes, construction projects, mining, oil exploration and industries. [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 8 Mar 82]

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